





Theodora Ashton

Theodora C

her Book

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Handwritten text, possibly a signature or date, appearing as "1890" and "1891" in a cursive script.

*Theodocia Ashton  
Her Book &  
penned work*

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*work* THE  
H I S T O R Y  
OF

CHARLES MANDEVILLE.

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*Theodocia Ashton  
Her Book*

Theodocia Ashton  
her Book

THE

HISTORY

*Harmon Antislavery his.*

*Book of the OF Antislavery  
Jan 20 - 1834*

CHARLES MANDEVILLE.

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A

SEQUEL TO LADY JULIA,

By MRS. BROOKE.

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DUBLIN:

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# INTRODUCTION.

To MRS. S. ———

WHEN I agreed to comply with my dear friend's request, of collecting an account of the incidents that have happened in the Mandeville Family, since those unfortunate events, which you, (and all who have hearts,) have grieved for, I had the greatest prospect of accomplishing the task better, than I now find I am able to do.

My

My intimacy with Lady Anne Belville, made me trust to every assistance her lively wit could give me; and as she was so constantly at Belmont, before she married Colonel Belville, her information must be authentic; but her wit and spirit is turned into another channel! that flow of humour, which used to divert all who heard it, is now wholly employed in enlivening domestic scenes! It adorns the most improved understanding, and makes her shine as an amiable wife, and tender mother.

She frankly told me, that Lady Julia Mandeville's death had so damped her spirit for writing letters, that were she now to take up the pen, her style would be  
funk

sunk into that of a mere story-teller ; that perhaps if she spoke truth, she must own she should feel herself mortified at this change, as she was once vain of her epistolary talents ; yet, she must confess, she thought her time and talents were now better employed ; but though she could not assist me with her pen, she would gratify me, by giving me all the papers she could collect, that I might digest them into such order, as would enable me to carry on the thread of the story ; and she would hereafter inform me of those facts that were not to be found in those manuscripts.

You see, therefore, my dear madam, I am going to sea, without the skilful pilot I had depended upon ! you must therefore

fore excuse the errors, that will unavoidably be the consequence. But I flatter myself, the desire to obey any command of your's, will, in some measure, compensate for the defects of,

My dear Mrs. S.——

Your very affectionate Friend,

JANE P.——

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THE  
H I S T O R Y  
OF  
CHARLES MANDEVILLE.

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To Miss KITTY FORTESCUE.

My dearest friend,

AH! with what anguish do I give that title to any body, but my beloved Julia! yet I can truly say, I love you sincerely; and its giving a relief to my sorrows, to write to you, is a sure proof that I do.—Sorrows, which I would not part with, though I am pleased to have them softened by the tender and sensible remarks in your kind and sympathizing letter. I do, believe me, I do try, to the utmost of my power, to exert every  
B faculty,

faculty, and employ all the arguments, my own reason, and your better sense points out, to enable me to bear my sad fate as a Christian ought ! but nature will—nay, it must feel ; and my heart is too little to contain so much grief, without sometimes overflowing. Never, till now, did I know the pangs of affliction ! I was too young when my parents died, to be sensible of their loss ; and have been blessed with such friends, that I have never known the want of parental tenderness. Most comfortable, indeed, is your reply to my long tale of woe. You allow me to indulge my fond wishes, in the hope of meeting my dear Julia in a state of perfect bliss !—this gives sorrow a pillow to rest upon !

We are all in better health, than, considering our miserable situation, could have been expected. God is ever merciful ! That sure trust and confidence we repose in him, has enabled us to endeavour to sweeten the bitter cup, each has drank so largely of. The heart-stricken parents, seem, indeed, like monuments of woe ; yet,  
with

with amazement, Lady Anne Wilmot and myself, observe the submissive fortitude they shew, till some accidental occurrence revives emotions too strong to be suppressed—then, with eyes moistened with sorrow, they hastily retire; as poor Lord Belmont was forced to do, but an hour ago. I hear Lady Anne's step; she is coming with her wonted goodness to soothe me; or, perhaps, to steal away one dismal hour, to relieve our minds by conversation—were it not for her, I think I must have sunk into my Julia's grave, before this time.

I was mistaken, Lady Anne came to tell me, she met my Lord alone, in too pensive a mood; and has persuaded him, it would be of great use to my health, if he could prevail upon me to take a ride this fine afternoon. The sweet, amiable man, (not suspecting the design to amuse him) said, if I would ride, he would accompany me; provided, Lady Anne would be so kind as to amuse Lady Belmont in our absence. You may be sure I do not hesitate—it is my mind's best

cordial, to please those whom my Julia loved.— Oh ! that for their sakes, as well as my own, I could change places with her.—Yet, does not this sound prophane and selfish ? as if murmuring at the decrees of Providence, and envying her the joys of heaven ! Indeed, I do not mean either ; but my thoughts were ever wont to outrun my reason ; ah ! what wonder they should do so now ?—she, who used to correct those thoughts, is gone ! and that reason is clouded with sorrow. Alas ! error must be the consequence, when I am left without my kind and prudent monitor. But I must now quit my pen, and prepare to attend his Lordship.

## IN CONTINUATION.

Alas ! my dear Kitty, when we rise in the morning, how little do we foresee the anxiety we may have to contend with ere night. Affliction has taught me to moralize ; whilst it has added to my natural inability to write well ; therefore, without any farther preface, than  
adoring



adoring that divine power, which has this day shewn such mercy to us all, I will relate a ‘plain, unvarnished tale,’ which wants no rhetorical ornaments to engage your attention.

You remember, I laid down my pen to attend my Lord. We took horse at the little gate of the park—I trembled on observing his Lordship turn up his eyes to Lady Julia’s chamber window : he sighed heavily, and wiped away the tears, which ran down his venerable cheeks ; answering the servant’s question of ‘which way his Lordship chose to ride,’ by saying, ‘ask Miss Howard, all places are now alike to me.’ I said the most shady was preferable, as the sun was very hot. Worthy George had his lesson from Lady Anne ; whose good head, and better heart, had pointed out the route, least likely to meet any body ; and not accustomed to be taken formerly, though a pleasant one.

We followed George through shady lanes, full of melodious choristers ; whose harmony must have

have enlivened any heart, not entirely benumbed with sorrow. Indeed it appeared to have some effect on my Lord ; for he stopped to listen, and then repeated six lines out of the Shunamite—‘ Righteous, and good, art Thou, &c.’ We stopped again where the river was running in meanders, on the side of a lovely meadow, to observe an old house which seemed newly, and elegantly repaired. My Lord asked George, who it was now inhabited that ancient mansion ? George replied, ‘ a Mr. Ware, who had acquired a large fortune in trade, had bought the estate ; that he was a very worthy gentleman, and already beloved by the whole village ; to whom he was a blessing.” “ Why, surely,” said my Lord, ‘ this cannot be Meadow-House, we cannot have rode so far ; it is above six miles from Belmont.’ On the servant’s replying in the affirmative ; my Lord said, ‘ then we will only go to that corner, to take a view of the river, and return home.’

As we rode slowly on, we saw a gentleman at a distance, which made my Lord turn his horse quick

quick about; when a shot rook, nearly dead, fluttered up a little way off the ground, and startled the horse: his Lordship, being off his guard, was thrown into the river, in the most rapid part of the stream.

Imagine my terrors, for no words can describe them: yet I had senses enough left to call loudly to George, who immediately jumped off his horse, and was going to leap into the river, when the gentleman we had observed before, flew, like a bird, to the water side; and throwing off his clothes, gave his watch to the servant, saying, ‘take care of the lady, I can swim fast, and hope to save the gentleman;’ so plunged into the river, and in a little time, (though to me it seemed a very long one) he caught my Lord, just as he reached the mill; and at length brought him, oh! joyful sight, on the meadow; and, after holding him up, that he might discharge the water he had swallowed, he bore him in his arms towards the house. As he passed George, he bid him tell the lady the gentleman would soon be well, and desired she would follow

low them. George, I believe, saved me from fainting, by his news: for as I was running towards the river, I saw blood on the grass, and concluded my Lord was killed. George told me, the blood came from the gentleman's arm; which was torn by the mill, just as he stretched it, to take hold of him; but for all that, he did not let him go. My grateful heart supplicated heaven, for blessings on my Lord's preserver.

When I first saw him in his walk, I had remarked a peculiar dignity, and noble, manly port; but now I supposed him some celestial being, sent to save my Lord.

I walked to the house, as fast as my trembling limbs would carry me, revolving, in my mind, what melancholy consequences might follow from this accident, though the immediate danger was over.

A decent female servant met me with drops and water, and begged I would lean upon her;  
for

for she saw I could hardly support myself, and was unable to speak. She told me, the gentleman was put into bed, and so much recovered, as to desire to see the lady. This account gave a pleasing relief to my spirits, and enabled me to quicken my pace.

I found my Lord sitting up in bed, and just going to drink a glass of cyprus wine.—‘Emily,’ said he, ‘that gentleman has saved my life, at the hazard of his own—tell this to Lady Belmont, and Colonel Mandeville—’ He was proceeding, when the gentleman returned; having been absent to change his clothes.

He begged my Lord would not talk much at present; then bowing to me, begged my pardon; but he believed, from the sweet disposition my countenance expressed, he should think, the best respect he could pay me, was to take care of my father; therefore he would make no apology for any want of proper attendance, as he had dispatched his servants for a physician, and a surgeon,

geon, lest my patient should suffer from ignorance. He then felt my Lord's pulse, and casting on me the finest pair of blue eyes I ever beheld, said, with a smile, as if it were an earnest of pleasing news, 'the pulse are now nearly as regular as if nothing had happened; let me intreat you, madam, to drink this glass of wine; it will help you to recover your fright.' I obeyed, and felt its glowing warmth revive me; but soon sunk again, by seeing drops of blood on the sheets; my Lord observed them at the same moment, and perceiving they came from the gentleman's gown sleeve, hastily called out, Oh! 'sir, I fear you are greatly hurt.' 'Only enough to excuse my appearing in so improper a garb, as this loose night-gown; but I will retire, and soon stop the blood, if you will promise me to repose here to-night; as rest for a few hours, and then some proper nourishment, will be necessary before you remove.' This was assented to, by my Lord, who repeated his request to Mr. Ware, to be careful of himself. Mr. Ware then asked where he should send, to  
prevent

prevent his family's being uneasy at his absence? My Lord, said, I should write a few lines, and dispatch his servant with them.

Mr. Ware went away, sending in writing materials directly: and I wrote a short billet to my Lady; to which my Lord added a line or two. He then asked me, if I did not perceive a strong resemblance in Mr. Ware's voice, to that of our poor lost Harry. I confessed, it had struck me; but added, there was no resemblance in the face. His Lordship, weakened by his late accident, could not command himself, so well as he usually does, but burst into a flood of tears. As I dreaded the effects of any great emotion at this time, I changed the subject, and requested him to lie down, and try to compose himself to rest. He did so, and sooner than I could have expected, fell into a sound sleep.

I stole out of the room, to take my letter to George, and found Mr. Ware in the adjoining apartment,

apartment, who assured me, he would take my place, and watch the gentleman, calling the house-keeper to conduct me into the parlour, and order my servant to attend me.

Poor George was transported he had such good news to carry ; but, ‘ Ah ! madam,’ said he, ‘ the poor gentleman’s arm is sadly hurt, indeed ; ‘ the flesh is torn up to the shoulder ; and in ‘ one place, so much so, as to shew the bone. ‘ The coachman and I have bound it up, by his ‘ orders, with some herbs, which he fetched out ‘ of his closet : the doing it, made me shudder, ‘ yet he hardly winched.’

I hastened George away, and was alone for two hours ; as the coming of the physician and surgeon, made me think it improper to go up stairs. Mercy on me, how did I wish for judgment to act right ?—how did I want Lady Anne’s discretion to direct my conduct ? As I was pondering what I ought to do, the house-keeper came  
to



to inform me, the gentleman was awake, and wanted to speak to me.

I flew up stairs—his Lordship said, ‘ My dear  
‘ Emily, I wish you would go to Belmont, to  
‘ assure Lady Belmont I am perfectly well, and  
‘ would go home to-night, but for my promise  
‘ to Mr. Ware, that I would stay till morning.  
‘ The physician and surgeon have been here,  
‘ and both assure me I have received no injury.  
‘ Indeed, I feel quite well ; but I fear my pre-  
‘ server is very bad, and very obstinate ; he will  
‘ not permit the surgeon to apply any other  
‘ dressing to his arm than some herbs, he brought  
‘ from abroad. He is gone to bed ; and I can  
‘ see, plainly, the physician thinks ill of him.  
‘ I hope he will mend to-morrow, and that I  
‘ shall be so happy as to leave him better ; for  
‘ I shall be miserable, if his kindness to me  
‘ should prove destructive to himself.” At this  
moment, I was called out, and found Lady  
Anne was come for me.

Heaven

Heaven preserve my dear Kitty from ever experiencing such affecting trials, as has lately been the lot of her

EMILY HOWARD.

To

## TO MISS KITTY FORTESCUE.

**I** Suppose Emily has long since introduced me to your acquaintance, by giving you my history ; as young friends make it the criterion of amity, to tell all they know, which they term, increasing joy, and lessening sorrow, by decanting (if you will allow the phrase, it was the first that occurred, and I never study) every thought into each others breast, till they overflow with tears of sympathy. I will, therefore, not look upon myself as a stranger ; but lay aside my own flippant pen, and take up the more sober one of your friend, and try to catch her plain unaffected manner, that you may read her words in my hand-writing, as I have insisted on her going to bed, to try to compose her too much agitated spirits.

When

When I arrived at Meadow House, I found the dear girl in a fluctuating state of mind; doubting the propriety of her remaining there alone, yet unwilling to leave my Lord, though he had requested her to return.—My arrival, removed these difficulties.

We had been made uneasy at Belmont, by their long absence—minds, that have been set to melancholy tones, ever play the most dismal tunes—all, privately thought some misfortune had happened; yet each said the best they could devise, to prove they did not: but as the time passed on, we grew more impatient, and servants were sent out different ways. One met George; the sound of horses, brought the alarmed trio to the door. George wisely said, “My Lord, and “Miss Howard, are both well, but do not return to-night, so sent me with this letter.”

Lady Belmont, with a countenance as pale as a ghost, took the paper with trembling hands; and

and finding herself unable to open it, I read aloud Emily's account, which was as follows.

‘ My dear Lady,

‘ An angel of a man has saved my Lord from  
 ‘ receiving any injury by his horse's throwing him  
 ‘ into the river ; but, as he was thoroughly  
 ‘ wet, you may suppose, Mr. Ware took him to  
 ‘ his house, and ordered a bed to be warmed, and  
 ‘ has prevailed on his Lordship to lie down,  
 ‘ whilst his clothes were dried. I am assured,  
 ‘ and, indeed, see every reason to believe, he  
 ‘ has not met with the least hurt by the accident,  
 ‘ formidable as it appeared ; but for fear of taking  
 ‘ cold, Mr. Ware has prevailed on him to sleep  
 ‘ here to-night. I will not detain the servant,  
 ‘ to add an unnecessary line from

‘ Your dutiful, and obliged

‘ EMILY HOWARD.”

Then followed, in my Lord's hand-writing, these few lines.

‘ My

‘ My dearest love,

‘ Emily says true, for I am perfectly well,  
‘ thanks to Heaven; and Mr. Ware, who has,  
‘ at the hazard of his own life, saved that of

‘ Your ever devoted

‘ BELMONT.”

Joy, terror, and grief, so occupied poor Lady Belmont’s mind, that they denied her the power of speech; but she looked so piteously at me, that I plainly read her wishes, and obeyed them, by ordering the post chaise to be immediately got ready; saying, My Lord’s gentleman, and myself, would go to him with fresh clothes.

Whilst these matters were preparing, I prevailed on her Ladyship to go to bed, as the anxiety of her mind for some hours, and the agitation this account gave her, made me fear for her health.

We

We arrived at Meadow House as soon as it was possible. My Lord was so well, and so much refreshed by his sleep, that he had got up, and was dressed in a morning gown of Mr. Ware's. He told me that poor gentleman was the only sufferer by this accident; and that his being so hurt, on his account, had made him less reluctant to stay, that he might see him in the morning; and then he would return to his dear wife.—He wished me to go back directly to her, and take Emily with me.

We got home by eleven. After seeing Emily in bed, as she wanted sleep, I was going to rest; but not yet—fate had decreed my thoughts full employment; for before I reached my dressing-room, I heard a soft, but heavy foot, and my name gently called.—It proved the dejected Colonel Mandeville. Conceiving he wanted some intelligence, I was glad of it, for curiosity is a great help to dispel grief. I stopped, and he begged my pardon for the interruption, and permission for a few minutes conversation.

The

The moment we entered my dressing-room, he threw himself on a sofa, and burst into a flood of tears. I was amazed, as I had never seen him weep in all our sorrows, and began to disperse his fears for my Lord, when he hastily said, ‘ Oh ! Lady Anne, assist my distracted mind to unfold this mystery ! the watch ! oh ! the watch ! ’——I started, and really began to fear his brain was disturbed.

In a few minutes, he composed himself sufficiently to say, ‘ Soon after you went, George came into the parlour, asking leave to go directly back to Meadow House, for that Mr. Ware, just as he leaped into the river, gave him the watch he then held in his hand ; and with a remarkable earnest look, bid him take care of it, and give it him safe again ; but, said George, the fright I was in for my Lord, and the helping to assist poor Mr. Ware afterwards, put it out of my head ; pray let me carry it directly ; for can I do too much for one that has saved my Lord ? ’

‘ It



‘ It is too late, said I; I will take care of it to-  
‘ night, and you shall go with it early in the  
‘ morning.

‘ George retired, leaving the watch on the  
‘ table; I soon after took it up to look at the  
‘ hour; the seal caught in my ruffle; and as I  
‘ was disengaging it, the arms caught my eye.—  
‘ Oh! my good God, what shall I think? it  
‘ is the very seal I gave my poor boy Charles,  
‘ with our arms and crest; nay, it is, I verily  
‘ believe, the same watch I gave him; but the  
‘ seal I am positive is the same.

‘ He was lost in the Victory! my partial fond-  
‘ ness for my ever to be lamented Harry, made  
‘ me too soon forget my Charles! Righteous Hea-  
‘ ven! I have been justly punished for my  
‘ faults!’——

Here he stopped; sorrow left him only the  
power of sighs to express his feelings!

I was

I was much astonished—after a moment's reflection, told him, Mr. Ware could doubtless give some light into this strange affair ; but that I feared he was very ill, with the hurt he had received ; and then I related all that had passed at Meadow House, and what I had heard from Emily.

The Colonel rose, lifted his hands and eyes to heaven, and withdrew in silence.

I went to bed, but not to rest ; however I was refreshed, and rose early, and went to Emily ; who I found had not been able to sleep, and had a violent head ach ; said she was going to rise, for she must finish a letter to you, time enough for the post. I told her I would do that, if she would try to sleep an hour or two.

‘ Will you be so good, my dear Lady Anne ?  
 ‘ my letter lies on the table, read it, for I have  
 ‘ no secrets I want to hide from you, and add  
 ‘ what you think proper.’

I looked

I looked over her lines, and when I came to ‘ the dignity of air and manner, and fine blue eyes,’ I cast my eyes archly on her’s. She blushed, and looked down. This, with some few things she had said about this same stranger, as we returned home, made me suspect the fire of those same fine blue eyes had kindled a spark in her tender heart, and might raise an unusual flame, in a breast that had hitherto felt only the more gentle warmth of friendship ; but to confess the truth, I do not wish for more love scenes at Belmont, lest they should only be tragic ones, so changed the subject ; and when I had prated to her a few minutes, went into the parlour, where I found the anxious Colonel folding a letter ; he read me the contents, which, as nearly as I can recollect, were as follow —

‘ Pardon, sir, the distressing anxiety of an  
‘ unhappy old man ; I mean not to be imperti-  
‘ nent, but the seal to your watch, has awakened  
‘ every feeling : it bears my coat of arms, and  
‘ crest ; and was once given by me to my son  
‘ Charles

‘ Charles Mandeville, who was lost in the Vic-  
‘ tory man of war. Perhaps he gave that token  
‘ of juvenile (consequently pure) affection to  
‘ you. Gladly would I wait on the man my dear  
‘ boy loved, even if I had not reason to bless you,  
‘ for having been the preserver of my greatly ho-  
‘ nored friend; therefore, as soon as your phy-  
‘ sician thinks company not improper for you, I  
‘ mean to pay my respects to you, and am, sir,  
‘ with the most ardent wishes for your recovery,

‘ Your’s, &c.

‘ CHARLES MANDEVILLE.’

George immediately set out with the watch and letter; the coach had before gone for my Lord; Lady Belmont was retired to her room; and I began to have a little leisure to indulge my own thoughts. My imagination, like a ventilator in a window, is for ever going round; and it often brings back the horrors past, and as often presents me with pleasing hope for the future, by thinking with joy on my own dear Colonel.

Colonel

Colonel Mandeville said he would walk (I could guess where) to feed his sorrows, when a messenger arrived from London with a letter, desiring him instantly to set off to see a dying friend, and intreating him not to delay a moment. He requested I would send the letter directly to him, but hoped to be again at Belmont, in four or five days at farthest.

Emily's maid informs me her mistress is awake, and much better. The post-man stays, so I will close this history, rather than letter, by assuring you,

I am, madam,

Your, &c.

ANNE WILMOTT.

C

To

To Colonel BELLVILLE.

**I** DO not remonstrate, and dissemble as I should have done a few months past, when my spirits were more blithe ; but either won by your merit, or betrayed by my own heart, I give up the point, and fairly own, I cannot contradict the force of your arguments ; so confess, I wish to see you here, and to accompany you to Lady Mary, in order to expedite my niece, Bell Hastings' happiness ; that when the necessary appearance in a court of justice is over, nothing may remain to delay the match ; for since the late deplorable scenes here, I must ever fear for lovers, till their hands, as well as hearts, are united.

A little

A little sunshine seems to gleam upon Belmont : may gracious Heaven grant it may dissipate the black cloud which has so long enveloped us !

I am willing to give you hopes of meeting us less dismal.—My Lord's safe return (after the tremendous accident my last informed you of) gave Lady Belmont more transport than I ever expected to see her feel.

Emily flew down stairs to welcome him, and then with her serious, innocent, and artless look, eagerly asked—‘ How is Mr. Ware ? ’ He answered, very gravely—‘ Very ill, I fear ! ’ Down went Emily's eyes, whilst her ears listened eagerly to my Lord, who went on, saying, ‘ He adds to my apprehensions for him, by his obstinacy, for he will not permit his arm to be dressed with any thing but those herbs ; and told me this morning, he had known that application effect greater cures than this would be, in two days, yet he cannot stir his arm at all. He asked for you, Emily, and is very

‘ uneasy about a watch, which he says he values  
‘ above all other treasures ; I concluded there-  
‘ fore he was delirious, so left his bed-side.

‘ He is immoderately fond of a wonderfully  
‘ pretty little girl.’ (Emily coloured ; ha ! ha !  
‘ thought I, so he is married.) ‘ The child is very  
‘ young, and though it prates fast, can hardly  
‘ be understood : it is so beautiful, I thought on  
‘ what once was——’

My Lord sighed, and paused, but soon recovered from his agitation ; then proceeding said,  
‘ My benefactor is a foreigner, I believe ; for  
‘ though he speaks English better than most people do, who have not learned it young ; yet  
‘ he speaks it slowly, and with hesitation. I  
‘ find he has not been long in England ; however, let him be of what country he may, his  
‘ manners are agreeable ; his conversation discovers sense and good-nature ; and there is a  
‘ remarkable grandeur in his deportment, that  
‘ proves him to be a man of consequence.

‘ Just



‘ Just as I left his room, having ordered my  
‘ coach to the door, I perceived a neat equipage,  
‘ that would not let my carriage drive up. A  
‘ gentleman got out, and having enquired of  
‘ my servants who they belonged to, approach-  
‘ ed me with great respect, saying, I was very  
‘ kind indeed, thus to honor his friend, in his  
‘ solitary state. He seemed much shocked at  
‘ hearing he was ill; said he was the mildest,  
‘ bravest, and honestest man he had ever known.

‘ After a little discourse, I found I was talking  
‘ then to Mr. Ware, the owner of the seat; and  
‘ that my preserver’s name was Woodville.

‘ Mr. Ware said, he had brought him very  
‘ good news; for that two ships, laden with  
‘ immense treasures, were safe in the Downs.  
‘ Mr. Ware begged I would permit him, after  
‘ he had seen his friend, to accompany me home;  
‘ but I assured him, he would confer a much  
‘ greater obligation on me, by staying to take  
‘ care of Mr. Woodville.

‘ To-

‘ To-morrow I intend to pay a visit to Mr.  
‘ Ware, and the poor sufferer; and I wish, la-  
‘ dies, you would accompany me, to wait on  
‘ Mrs. Ware, and her sister, who came down  
‘ this morning with Mr. Ware; as our best civi-  
‘ lities are surely due to every inhabitant of that  
‘ house.’

We all assented. Now if this same foreigner, with his two ships full of riches, proves a bachelor——no, that cannot be, for here is a little girl. Well, perhaps he may be a widower——aye, that is the case, to be sure; it accounts so well for his mourning. Why then, I think there will be one more bride at Belmont, than your foolish

ANNE WILMOTT:

To Colonel BELLVILLE.

O H dear ! oh dear ! I am out of breath with events ; they crowd so fast upon me, I know not where to begin. I wish you were here to regulate my confused ideas ; but on reflection, I think its possible you might encrease their confusion ; so, perhaps, it is better as it is.

Well, I will try for a little method, and proceed to tell you, that for a few hours we were in quietness, when we began to wonder that George was not returned. After dinner, he arrived with a letter to Colonel Mandeville. My Lord enquired why he had delayed so long. Take his own story——

‘ I was

‘ I was shewn up to the gentleman’s room ;  
‘ he told me his arm was much easier, and was  
‘ sure it would soon be quite well ; he took the  
‘ watch, and very obligingly thanked me for the  
‘ care of it ; he looked earnestly at it ; sighed,  
‘ and pressed it to his heart. He then opened  
‘ the letter ; and casting his eyes on the name,  
‘ his colour went and came ; and he ordered lit-  
‘ tle miss, who was sitting in his lap, to go to  
‘ her maid, which the pretty creature did im-  
‘ mediately ; he then read the letter, and fell  
‘ into such an agony, I thought he was dying :  
‘ being alone with him, I was sadly frightened,  
‘ and ventured to ring the bell violently ; pre-  
‘ sently in ran the gentleman, who it seems ar-  
‘ rived just as your Lordship went away ; two  
‘ servants followed, so I thought it proper for  
‘ me to leave the chamber.

‘ The two servants soon came down ; and told  
‘ me, I was to wait for an answer to the letter I  
‘ had brought. I thought it long before it came ;  
‘ but they said, Mr. Woodville (who, it seems  
‘ is

‘ is the sick gentleman, and he that came to-  
‘ day is Mr. Ware) was in a strange disorder ;  
‘ the servants whispered, that by the strange  
‘ things he said, they believed he was out of  
‘ his senses.

‘ At last, Mr. Ware came down, and brought  
‘ me this letter ; saying, the one I had brought,  
‘ had disordered his friend so much, that his arm  
‘ began to bleed afresh, and the surgeon found  
‘ him much worse ; but they hoped the same re-  
‘ medy that had served him before, would be  
‘ again effectual ; but that he had found much  
‘ difficulty in writing the few lines I was to carry  
‘ home.’

George being gone down, my Lord looked at  
the letter very earnestly—the seal caught his eyes,  
and excited more surprize. I thought it most  
prudent to conceal what Colonel Mandeville had  
said about that seal. My Lord declared he never  
before had felt an inclination to do so dishonou-  
rable a thing as breaking the seal of another per-

son's letter ; he then laid it down. I took it, and retiring, wrote a few lines to inform Colonel Mandeville of his Lordship's being returned well ; and inclosing this same letter, dispatched it by my own servant to town.

I was called to prayers, at which all the servants attended ; and my Lord returned public thanks for his late great escape.

I find myself so fatigued with the various perturbations I have gone through, that I can only add, that I am more your's than my own,

ANNE WILMOTT.

To

## TO MISS KITTY FORTESCUE.

[After repeating most of what has been found in Lady Anne's letter, she goes on to say,]

WE all retired to gain some needful rest ; but shall I own even to you, my dear friend, that I dreamed of the little girl, and Mr. Woodville's wife ! and waked much hurried.

Has he a wife, I wonder !—should he be unengaged, I fear your poor Emily's heart is in danger. I must confess, I think I never saw so pleasing a man ; his voice is so like poor Harry's, that it frequently made me start ; but he speaks slower, and with some peculiar manner ; but yet, the tone is music itself—but no more of him—if he has a wife, I hope she is as charming as he is.

We

We had not quitted the breakfast table, when Mr. Herbert came in ; he still looks the picture of sorrow. Poor Lady Belmont had never seen him before ; she could not stand it long ; I followed her Ladyship out of the room, and found her almost in hysterics. After giving way to her heart-rending feelings, she begged I would prevent my Lord's expecting her to accompany us in our afternoon's visit ; for till she could better govern herself, she found her spirits hurt, by throwing a gloom on the cheerfulness of others.

Mr. Herbert, in respect to her Ladyship, (whom he perceived his presence had so much affected) would not stay dinner.

On my Lord's naming to him, his intention of visiting his new neighbour this afternoon, Mr. Herbert said, ' He is a very extraordinary character ; he arrived twelve days ago, in Mr. Ware's absence ; who wrote to Mr. Gray, the  
' worthy



‘ worthy minister of the parish, desiring he would  
‘ introduce himself to Mr. Woodville, without  
‘ ceremony ; but avoid asking any questions, as  
‘ he wished at present to be retired ; but wanted  
‘ the acquaintance of a worthy divine, to assist  
‘ him in the course of his present study.

‘ Mr. Gray went the next morning, and was  
‘ admitted, as soon as he sent in his name ; and  
‘ has since told me, he never was so charmed  
‘ with any man’s conversation and behaviour in  
‘ his life.

‘ He has been with him part of every day  
‘ since, and finds his admiration increase each  
‘ visit. He sometimes stays five hours at a time,  
‘ instructing him in the tenets of our religion,  
‘ which he was very anxious to understand tho-  
‘ roughly ; telling Mr. Gray, till that necessary  
‘ point was gained, it was his choice to be as  
‘ private as possible ; he added, that he was born  
‘ of

‘ of Christian parents, but had, from his early  
‘ youth, lived in a land that knew not what was  
‘ meant by Christianity, nor had they books  
‘ of any kind to instruct them. Yet, Mr. Gray  
‘ says, he never conversed with any body who  
‘ had more truly religious sentiments ; a more  
‘ honest heart, or more sound judgment, which  
‘ guided a lively imagination. He seemed to be  
‘ from nature, what others become from educa-  
‘ tion ; to be a philosopher, without learning ;  
‘ a hero without vice ; and his mind to be like a  
‘ garden, which produceth the sweetest flowers  
‘ without weeds.

‘ His whole delight seems to be in a little girl ;  
‘ who is to be baptised, as soon as he believes  
‘ himself sufficiently instructed in religion to ap-  
‘ pear where he ought, to fulfil his own baptismal  
‘ vow.

‘ All

All the time that is not spent with this engaging infant, he devotes to study : even in his walks, he reads ; for his pocket is always furnished with some useful book. His conversation is lively and entertaining. Mr. Gray's account of him,' added Mr. Herbert, ' has made me much wish for his acquaintance.'

At five o'clock we set out, all very impatient for a further knowledge of this wonderful man.

We stopped the coach, on beholding the most pleasing object I ever saw. On the lawn, which comes up to the parlour window, stood a neat young female servant, by a tame lamb, dressed with ribbands and flowers ; and on the ground, sat the loveliest child that ever I beheld, playing with her equally innocent companion.

On our alighting, she jumped up, and with an angelic sweetness, and vivacity ran to me. I must give you an idea of the beautiful creature.—She is just three years old ; speaks plainer than  
than

than most children of that age—is finely formed—has a lovely skin—fresh colour—sweetly smiling blue eyes—beautiful mouth—well shaped nose—and soft, shining dark brown hair ; her cap fell off, as she ran to me, as if unwilling to hide one of those pretty curls, which flowed in loose natural ringlets round her well-turned neck.

Her dress was a sort of stays and coat, of fine white calico ; over which, was a gown with short sleeves, of white and silver gauze, fastened across the stomach, with a broad black riband, buckled by a small buckle of large brilliants ; black shoes, clasped with a very large diamond—Altogether, the most delightful figure you ever beheld.

Think of the little angel running to me, and holding up its pretty arms, said, ‘ Pay, pay up.’ Indeed I took her up, and looked at her with a transport that moistened my eyes ; which the sweet baby observing, and thinking there could be but one cause for tears, stroaked my face, and said, ‘ Don’t cry, papa is better, and sal be well soon.’

Whether

Whether Lady Anne envied me the pretty burthen I carried, I cannot say ; but she gave me one of her penetrating arch looks ; however, I did not regard her, but carried my young friend in my arms, into the drawing-room ; where we were received by Mr. and Mrs. Ware, and their sister. Before we were seated, the gentleman entered ; looking very pale, and his arm in a sling : the child left me, and ran to its father ; he kissed it, and bid the maid take it to walk.

After the usual greetings, and civilities were over, the stranger asked where Colonel Mandeville was ?

My Lord informed him.—He sighed, and eagerly said, ‘ When shall I see that most honoured man ? ’

Lord Belmont looked astonishment ; and said, ‘ Forgive me, sir, I do not mean to be impertinent ; but every thing that relates to the man who preserved my life, must be interesting to me—

‘ me—your impatience to see a stranger—the  
‘ agitation I understand his letter to you occa-  
‘ sioned—the seal on your reply to that letter;  
‘ have, altogether, excited a curiosity in me,  
‘ that I cannot suppress.’

The gentleman appeared embarrassed; after a moment’s pause, he answered, ‘ My Lord, I  
‘ had determined not to divulge my name or situ-  
‘ ation to any one, till I had seen Colonel Man-  
‘ deville; but I think your Lordship’s inter-  
‘ cession may be of use to plead for me, to an  
‘ injured parent! and the happy service I ren-  
‘ dered you, may help to conceal the errors of—  
‘ Charles Mandeville!’

My Lord started!

‘ Does your Lordship recollect a young kinf-  
‘ man of that name? I, my Lord, am that man;  
‘ happy, or unhappy, as my father and you  
‘ may receive me!’

My

My Lord, in a transport of joy, opened his arms, and embraced him in speechless rapture : at length, he said, ‘ Oh, Charles ! welcome to my heart, and fortune !’

Mr. Mandeville received my Lord’s careffes with delight, and respect ; saying, ‘ Oh, fir ! be my friend ; intercede for me with my offended father ! the blessing of his pardon will atone for many past sufferings : I have great fears, that my receiving no answer to the few lines I sent him, penned in misery, but sufficiently explanatory ; is too plain a proof he does not mean to forgive his erring son !’

‘ I will answer for him,’ said my Lord, ‘ that he has not received your letter, and that his joy only can exceed mine ; when I introduce to him so worthy a man in his long lost child !’ Then embracing him again, he added, ‘ May the divine mercy bless you with mutual enjoyment of this unlooked for happiness !’

‘ His

His Lordship wept ; and the spectators, who had sat in silent wonder, joined their tears and congratulations : when my Lord said, ‘ but  
‘ pray, sir, let me kiss my pretty cousin, your  
‘ sweet infant !’

The bell was rung ; and a servant entering, was ordered to fetch the little girl.

Mr. Ware went out, and soon returned (followed by a servant with a salver of rich wines), saying, ‘ I know ladies, this is not customary  
‘ before tea ; but I think such interesting subjects require a more cordial refreshment.’ He took a glass, and presented another to Lord Belmont ; requesting we would all pledge him in drinking a happy meeting to Colonel Mandeville and his son. Every body followed the example with alacrity ; when Mr. Ware, turning to Lord Belmont, said, he hoped he, and the ladies, would pardon any indecorum in his manner ; and  
remember,



remember, trade, not politeness, had been his study—he must also intreat, that any farther discourse on the late interesting subject, might be postponed for the present, on account of his friend's weak state of health ; for though he had recovered almost miraculously, yet a relapse might be the consequence of too great agitation.'

My Lord approved the caution ; and turning to Mr. Mandeville, said, ' I hope, sir, you do not feel yourself hurt ; affected, I see you are.'

' Oh, my Lord ! I am well ; your kindness has lightened my heart—it has enabled me to look forward with a joy, that I have been long a stranger to.'

Mr. Ware's desire was strictly adhered to ; though, I dare say, each party longed for more information ; particularly, why all were in mourning ; but the weepers worn by my Lord  
and

and Mr. Mandeville, showed the cause was too serious, to admit of any enquiry.

I have written so much, I must now bid you adieu!

EMILY HOWARD.

## TO MISS KITTY FORTESCUE.

MY good girl, you know, or at least you will, I hope one day know, that when the die is cast, and one is termed a bride elect, anxiety is over ; and one has the greater leisure to observe other people ; now this being my case, I can see, that Emily succeeds to my late thoughtful situation ; however, as I have taken her pen, and shall be more honest and minute in my detail than maiden bashfulness would permit her to be, I shall leave you to make your own comments ; and assent or not, to my opinion, as you see cause.

He (meaning Mr. Mandeville, for I shall often say—he—to prevent repetitions ; and, really, there is such a noble dignity in his mien and air, one would be apt to think there was no other he ;)

is a striking figure, though not delicately handsome. I begin to think, it is well for somebody, that my word was given before I saw this all-conquering hero, for I fancy I should prefer him; he could so well entertain me with a world of anecdotes, that would furnish a never failing fund of discourse—no bad defence against dull domestic hours; which, alas! married people must expect; for even the best toned violins are not always in tune.

I find he has lived many years in a foreign land; but how, or why he was there, we are yet to learn.—He left the room, for a few minutes, which gave Mr. Ware the opportunity of informing us of this.

The servants entered with tea and coffee; and, oh! pretty sight, Mr. Mandeville followed, leading his lovely child, holding a straw basket, filled with toys; he carried the girl to my Lord, saying, ‘This is my real treasure, though blest with an abundance of fortune.’

My

My Lord affectionately kissed the child ; a tear of recollection fell down his cheeks ; he wiped it off ; sighed, and rising superior to selfish sorrow, said, with a cheerful air, ‘ It is a lovely  
‘ infant ; and, unless you give me a boy also,  
‘ this pretty creature must be our heiress.’

Mr. Mandeville bowed ; and sighing, said he had lost both his sons—this was his only child.

He then brought her to me, and then to Emily. The pretty innocent wished to sit in her lap ; and in her broken language, said, ‘ how do oo do ? ‘ I have brought oo some pay things.’

The father gave a look of tenderness, which met a sympathetic spark in Emily’s eyes ; who, blushing, hung her head on the child’s face. He said, ‘ My dear, have you no play things for  
‘ any body else ?’

The child answered, ‘ Yes, papa ;’ and then, as if she had been inspired, ran to her basket,

D

took

took out a small fillagree horse, and flew with it to Lord Belmont, saying, ‘ There’s a doold horse for oo, pay teep it.’ Again she trotted to the basket, and choosing a bird, brought it to me—‘ Here’s a pitty bird for oo.’ Again she flew to her store, and came back to Emily, with a small, elegant silver figure, of exquisite workmanship—‘ Here’s a pitty man for oo.’

Emily took it, and blushed scarlet deep on looking at it—but, goddess of the descriptive powers assist me! how shall I paint the joyful father’s countenance, at observing the toy she had chosen for Emily, and the blushes it had created in her; for it was an image of himself; executed beyond any thing I ever saw: to heighten poor Emily’s embarrassment, the child said, ‘ Pray teep it for my sake.’

Emily, with artless cheerfulness, said, ‘ I will, my sweet angel.’

The father bowed—‘ Madam, you make me  
 ‘ happy ; the poor girl wants a friend, she has  
 ‘ chosen one with a judgment superior to her  
 ‘ age.’

Upon my word, I like this public sort of court-  
 ship ; it is far more entertaining than the soft  
 nonsense generally made use of. I have a mind  
 to begin again, and teach my gentleman this new  
 mode of making love.

My Lord seemed to think it was high time to  
 relieve poor Emily, whose confusion was too vi-  
 sible ; so he took the image saying, that, it was  
 too rich, and curious a gift for a child to make ;  
 but that he would deposit it in his cabinet of cu-  
 riosities.

I thought, I observed his Lordship’s speech cast  
 a gloom over Mr. Mandeville’s features.

General chat ensued ; but no one, I find,  
 says one word of poor Mrs. Ware, and her

sister.—Well then, they are civil, well-meaning, good sort of women ; neither handsome or plain ; behaved just as they ought, and played the under parts of the drama very well.

The heat of the room made Mr. Ware propose a walk, when tea was over.

My Lord said, if the grounds were as much improved as the house, since he had seen them, he should be greatly gratified by viewing them ; but that he would first order the coach, lest a late hour should give Lady Belmont an unnecessary alarm.

Mr. Mandeville replied, he was glad to hear her Ladyship named—his Lordship's dress had precluded any enquiry after her.

My Lord sighed bitterly, and showed he was much affected ; but conquering himself once more, we all rose, and proceeded to the garden. The gentlemen (according to the abominable

Angloise



Angloise fashion) soon left us poor women to the dull chat of a female visit.

When it was near eight o'clock, the servants informed us the coach was ready; the gentlemen were approaching near enough for me to observe my Lord take off his finger the fine family ring he always wears, and so highly values, and put it on Mr. Mandeville's finger.

Proper civilities ended, we got into the carriage—every body silent—the women all impatient to hear, but my Lord kept in composed meditation for near half the way; at length he said, ‘ I have been reflecting, Lady Anne, on the wonderful work of Providence in this affair. My friend never was near so fond of this son, as of poor Harry. Charles was as promising a lad as his brother, but less tractable; and had a spirit that would not submit to correction.—He ran away from school, because, he said, he would not be whipped like a dog or a slave.

‘—After

‘ After this event, we had every reason to  
‘ suppose him lost in the Victory. The Colonel’s  
‘ excessive fondness for his youngest son, made  
‘ him, perhaps, too soon reconcile himself to  
‘ the loss of the eldest ; who, now you see, is  
‘ preserved to comfort and alleviate his sorrow,  
‘ and be the support of his age.

‘ Happy Colonel ! I have no child !’ He paused—sighed heavily—then, with an animated voice, said, ‘ Yes, Charles must be as a son  
‘ to me ; I did not give him life, but he has  
‘ preserved mine. The little girl too—oh, my  
‘ Julia ! how like thy tender age. Well, Heaven be praised, my friends are happier than  
‘ myself !’

He stopped again, and then said, ‘ I am  
‘ surprised to find so fine an understanding, in a  
‘ man who can have seen so little of the world—  
‘ can have had so few advantages ; he has not  
‘ even had the common assistance of books.’

The

The coachman drove up the sweep ; my Lady, who had been watching anxiously for her Lord's safe return, met us at the drawing-room door. He immediately told her, he had received much satisfaction from his visit, and hoped he should make her partake of it—adding, ‘ This day has given pleasure, even to me !’

Lady Belmont sighed, and said she was glad to hear it.

‘ Do you not,’ said my Lord, ‘ recollect Charles Mandeville ?’

‘ To be sure I do ; he was always my favorite, though not his father's ; the child, too, was much fonder of me than his brother was : poor fellow, why mention him now ?’

‘ In order to give your Ladyship the pleasure of hearing, this lost boy—this beloved Charles, was the preserver of my life, at the hazard of his own. He really is the agreeable man Mr.  
 ‘ Herbert

‘ Herbert described this morning, Mr. Ware  
‘ brings him to-morrow, with his only child, a  
‘ very beautiful little girl, to pay his respects to  
‘ your Ladyship.’

‘ Is it possible ?’ said Lady Belmont. ‘ Do I  
‘ owe my dearest Lord’s life to that sweet boy ?  
‘ Bless him, gracious Heaven ! How shall I love  
‘ and thank him ? Is he quite recovered ?’

‘ Almost ; and entirely by the use of those  
‘ herbs he brought from a distant country, in  
‘ which he lived so long ; he seems very partial  
‘ to it ; he will not allow it to be uncivilized,  
‘ because tainted with no vice.—Its natives give  
‘ way to the natural dictates of benevolence.

‘ He means to spend some time with us at  
‘ Belmont.’ (Here Emily’s eyes brightened.)  
‘ So as this house caused the Colonel’s affliction,  
‘ here I hope to heal his sorrows, by restoring  
‘ to him a long lost son.—A fine fellow too, is  
‘ well made—has the air of a monarch—natu-  
‘ rally

‘ rally well complexioned, but now rather sun-  
 ‘ burnt ; but his features are so agreeable, one  
 ‘ does not mind his skin ; he has fine teeth, a  
 ‘ pleasing mouth, a good nose, and very fine  
 ‘ intelligent eyes. His aspect bespeaks courage  
 ‘ and humanity ; I confess, I am much pleased  
 ‘ with him.—I begin to think I have erred, in  
 ‘ supposing it necessary to take so much pains  
 ‘ to educate a young man.

‘ Here is one, who has no classical knowledge  
 ‘ —has not been taught the Graces ; and yet,  
 ‘ one can discover no deficiency either in his  
 ‘ conversation, or his manner.’

I joined in his praises, with my usual warmth.  
 Emily said little, but in that little, it was easy  
 to discover her opinion was as much in his favor,  
 at least, as those who had spoken more cop-  
 iously.

I was called out, and learned my servant had  
 returned in our absence with the letter I had sent

to Colonel Mandeville; hearing in town, that the Colonel had not stopped longer at his own house than was necessary to change horses; but had gone to his sick friend, with all possible expedition; and had left word, that he should not return through London, but be at Belmont in a few days.

Poor agitated man! he had forgotten to order the letter, he had desired me to send after him, should be forwarded to his friend's house; so my servant thought it better to bring it back to me.

As I hate concealments—alas, have they not been fatal to this family!—and saw no reason for keeping Lord Belmont a stranger now, to the story of the watch, I returned to the drawing-room, with the packet in my hand; and informed them of that transaction; adding, that as the event was so doubtful, I thought it more prudent not to agitate his Lordship's mind, by surmises, that might prove false.

My

My Lord kindly said, ‘ Considerate Lady ‘ Anne !’ There, who could have thought I should have ever deserved that epithet ?

We talked the rest of the evening, with a cheerfulness that has long been banished from our conversation in this house ; and Lady Belmont went to her apartment with a livelier aspect than she has had since her heavy affliction.

How amiable does her mind, and my Lord’s appear on this occasion ; thus sharing in the joy which others have—on a subject too, from which they are for ever precluded knowing joy ; for, alas ! there can never be another Lady Julia ! Adieu !

To Lady ANNE WILMOTT.

**A**T last, the disagreeable business is finished—disagreeable, because it has detained me from the best beloved of my heart!—May I not hope, that as the time of meeting draws near, you, also, feel an increase of impatience?

I have executed your Ladyship's orders, in regard to Miss Hastings; and, I flatter myself, in a manner that will gain the approbation of the most generous of female hearts!

In



In a few days then, I trust to receive the bright reward of my long suffering; reading in your animated countenance, that you share in the happiness that our meeting will give

Your faithful

EDWARD BELVILLE.

TO MR. HERBERT.

Sir,

**T**HOUGH stocked with a tolerable share of levity, yet, when I give my feelings time to operate, I love to endeavour to alleviate the sufferings of others: accept this eulogy on myself, as an apology for the liberty I take in writing to you; as I am convinced, your knowing that the happy event in this family, has softened their sore affliction, will sooth your grief for the loss of your friend—a true friend he was to every body, except himself. But to my subject.—You have heard the preface to my tale.

This day we expected Mr. Mandeville, to dinner; but, at two o'clock, came Mr. Ware alone; he immediately calmed our fears for his friend, by assuring us he was very well, and very  
happy;

happy ; and, with a smiling countenance, presented my Lord with a letter. On observing that we females were going to retire, and judging, I suppose, that as daughters of Eve, we were not wholly without curiosity, he said, ‘ I am certain there can be no occasion for the ladies’ absence ; all here are too much interested in what concerns Mr. Mandeville, to make concealment necessary.’ My Lord then read aloud—

‘ Your Lordship’s benevolent disposition, ensures my pardon for a greater omission than deferring, for a few hours, the honor of waiting on your Lordship, and Lady Belmont. I have seen my father, and am his happy son, and

‘ Your Lordship’s

‘ Obedient humble servant,

‘ CHARLES MANDEVILLE, Jun.’

Lord Belmont requested to hear the particulars of this desirable meeting.

Mr.

Mr. Ware said, ‘ I am an early riser, and  
 ‘ was employed in writing a letter to your Lord-  
 ‘ ship, by way of cover to some papers, relative  
 ‘ to Mr. and Mrs. Mandeville. She, poor wo-  
 ‘ man, gave them into my hands a few days be-  
 ‘ fore her death ; and, in a very affecting man-  
 ‘ ner, said——

‘ If you ever meet with a friend that loves my  
 ‘ Charles, give him these papers ; I would not  
 ‘ trust them with him ; knowing his innate mo-  
 ‘ desty would rather suppress the truths they tell  
 ‘ so much to his honor ; and would never divulge  
 ‘ to his friends, that he has been the glory, I  
 ‘ may almost say, the idol of a whole nation, and  
 ‘ of two neighbouring kingdoms.’

My Lord eagerly cried out, ‘ Sir, give them  
 ‘ to me——they are my right——I claim them  
 ‘ as such, as I truly love the man.’

Mr. Ware then produced a large packet, and  
 was going to unseal it.

‘ Do not open it now,’ said my Lord; ‘ I will peruse them in my study.’

Mr. Ware replied, he was only going to take out the letter he had taken the liberty to write; which was unnecessary now he was himself the bearer of them.

‘ Oh, pray let me see your letter, it will assist me, I dare say, in understanding the memoirs, and in forming my judgment.—I beg you will proceed with a relation of the affecting interview.’

Mr. Ware presented the packet, unopened, and said, ‘ Just as I had sealed my letter, Mr. Mandeville entered, saying, he hoped he had not detained me from breakfast; but he had been preparing for a longer expedition than to Belmont; as he intended setting off to London, the moment he had paid his respects to Lady Belmont, in hopes of seeing his father.

‘ We

‘ We had more discourse, and I, by degrees,  
‘ unfolded to him the misfortunes in his family ;  
‘ which I had learned last night from Mr Gray,  
‘ who called soon after your Lordship went, and  
‘ did not see Mr. Mandeville ; as I had pre-  
‘ vailed on him to go to bed, after the agitation  
‘ his mind had been in.

‘ I thought it right to inform him of those  
‘ particulars, lest by some painful questions, he  
‘ might distress a fond parent.’

Mr. Ware proceeded, without seeming to observe the uneasiness his discourse occasioned here.

‘ I was reasoning him into composure, when  
‘ we heard a carriage stop. The servant enquired for me ; and a gentleman alighted, just as  
‘ I had reached the hall door ; with an agitated  
‘ voice, he said, ‘ I am glad, sir, to see you so  
‘ well recovered.’

‘ I told

‘ I told him it was my friend that had been hurt, and that I had not been ill.

‘ Observing his dress, it that moment struck me, he was Colonel Mandeville.—I led him, therefore, a longer road into the breakfast-parlour, to give Mr. Mandeville time to retire, which I knew he would do, on the approach of company.

‘ My scheme answered, for we found the room empty ; when the gentleman said, ‘ Pray introduce me to the preserver of Lord Belmont’s life, my name is Mandeville.’—‘ I will look, sir, if he is in the study ; but I suspect he is walked out.’

‘ I went to my wife, begging of her to hasten breakfast, and leave us, as soon as it was finished. Next, I went to Mr. Mandeville, and requested I might send his chocolate to his dressing-room ; as I had a person with me about business.

‘ I then

‘ I then returned to the parlour, followed by  
‘ my wife and the child ; who being accustomed  
‘ to strangers, ran up to the newly arrived.

‘ Sir, said I, you have probably come a long  
‘ way this morning, please to take some refresh-  
‘ ment, whilst they are searching for my friend.

‘ He took up the little girl, saying, ‘ This is  
‘ a lovely child ; miss, may I kiss you ?’ She  
‘ turned up her smiling face, and he was so plea-  
‘ sed with her, that he said, ‘ God bless you,  
‘ you are a delightful girl !’

‘ He eat a bit of roll, and drank a cup of cho-  
‘ colate ; declining any more, and growing  
‘ plainly impatient, I looked at my wife, who  
‘ retired with the child.

‘ I then turned to Colonel Mandeville, say-  
‘ ing, ‘ The gentleman you enquire for, will  
‘ come as soon as I inform him you are here ;  
‘ but I chose you should take some refreshment  
‘ first,



‘ first, as he has some very interesting intelligence for you.—He knows, that a son of your’s, whom you have supposed lost in the Victory, is alive, and well.’

‘ What do you say, sir ? Is my Charles Mandeville living.’

‘ Yes, sir ; and to convince you, he sent a watch and seal to be shewn you when there was an opportunity ; which it seems accident conveyed to you the other night.’

‘ Oh, merciful God ! have I still a son ? Oh, sir ! let me embrace the man who knows my Charles !’

‘ I went out to prepare my friend, but I had no sooner named his father, than he brushed by me and flew down stairs with such rapidity, that when I had gotten to the parlour, I found his father trembling in an arm chair, and

‘ Mr.

‘ Mr. Mandeville on his knees, holding his  
‘ hand, and calling loudly for water and drops.

‘ At length, the Colonel found utterance for  
‘ his raptures, and said, ‘ I am well, my child,  
‘ I am indeed ;’ and embracing his son, shed a  
‘ plentiful shower of tears. ‘ Then turning to  
‘ me, ‘ Oh, sir ! it was well you had prepared  
‘ me, or excess of joy had finished what excess  
‘ of grief had not done.’

‘ The son was feeling his father’s pulse, whilst  
‘ the tears streamed down his manly cheeks.—  
‘ Oh, sir ! do you indeed forgive me ?’

‘ Yes, my child ; as truly as I hope to be  
‘ forgiven.’ He then blessed him, and said,  
‘ May you live long, and happily ! Merciful  
‘ Heaven ! how happy am I, when I thought  
‘ all comfort had fled for ever !’

‘ Mr. Mandeville went hastily out of the room,  
‘ and returning with the child in his arms, pla-  
‘ ced

‘ced it on its knees before the Colonel; saying,  
‘Bless this dear infant, too; she is mine!’  
‘I blessed her, before I knew she was your’s;  
‘again, I pray to Heaven to pour down blessings  
‘on her;’ and kissing it cordially, the poor  
‘thing looked frightened, and stretched out her  
‘pretty arms to her father..

‘The Colonel said, ‘Take it in your lap,  
‘and sit before me, that I may gaze with delight  
‘on your both.—Have you not a son for me  
‘also?’

‘No, sir, this little darling is all I pos-  
‘sess.’

‘The Colonel, plainly mistaking his mean-  
‘ing, said, ‘Child, I have not much cash  
‘about me; but (taking out his pocket book)  
‘here is a hundred pound note for the present;  
‘and I think I know how to provide for the fu-  
‘ture.’

‘Mr.

‘ Mr. Mandeville took it respectfully ; and  
‘ smiling, said, ‘ Oh, sir, you must be so good  
‘ as to assist my friend Mr. Ware, in settling  
‘ my affairs, for I am but a novice in these mat-  
‘ ters ; and am possessed of more wealth than I  
‘ know what to do with.’

‘ You are a novice, indeed, child, to say so ;  
‘ but a short residence in England, will soon  
‘ make you change your opinion ; and find the  
‘ elegance and luxury of the present age, will  
‘ require a large store of riches. I have heard  
‘ of nothing but the arrival of two ships, im-  
‘ mensely freighted, consigned to a Mr. Ware.  
‘ I hope, sir, you are the fortunate owner of  
‘ them.’

‘ I am the man, sir, said I, they are consigned  
‘ to ; but I am only your son’s agent ; the cargo  
‘ is his, and I shall gain enough by the com-  
‘ mission.’

‘ Give me leave, sir,’ said Mr. Mandeville,  
‘ to

‘ to entreat you will take this little pocket-book ;  
 ‘ I believe it contains notes to about twelve thou-  
 ‘ sand pounds value ; as an earnest of our future  
 ‘ prosperity.’

‘ Oh ! it is too, too much for an old man ;  
 ‘ were it not for the recollection of my dear  
 ‘ Harry, I should feel too much joy—but there,  
 ‘ my heart must ever bleed ! however, no more  
 ‘ of those thoughts now ; it seems ungrateful to  
 ‘ Providence, who has thus wonderfully blessed  
 ‘ me ! I had determined, within these few mi-  
 ‘ nutes, to sell my commission, to secure a sup-  
 ‘ port for that dear little one !’

‘ In short, it is impossible to repeat the ten-  
 ‘ derness which filled their hearts, and over-  
 ‘ flowed in their words.

‘ I then mentioned the appointment at Bel-  
 ‘ mont ; saying, I imagined it would be more  
 ‘ agreeable to them to wait till after dinner ;

E

‘ and

‘ and that I would go and inform your Lordship  
‘ of this happy meeting, and leave the gentle-  
‘ men to follow in the afternoon.’

We all expressed our happiness---Lady Belmont, with her usual politeness, thanked Mr. Ware for his attention to her friends.

I am certain you will receive pleasure in hearing a Charles is found, to comfort this family; though he can never be to your heart, so dear as was the lively engaging Harry!

I am, &c.

ANNE WILMOTT.

To

## TO MISS KITTY FORTESCUE.

I FIND Emily has given you a copious detail of the joyful meeting of the father and son; and I have forbidden her to proceed with her account, as, from some cause or other, she has a violent head-ach; and, in obedience to my royal orders, is laid down, in hopes to regain her good looks before the afternoon——*entre nous*, I think then, she would be sorry not to wear her best face; and as ease of mind, and health of body, are all she requires to assist her native charms; we will try for that delightful rouge they can produce——Warren's milk of roses is nothing to it!

You see, therefore, you must be content with

E 2

my

my pen; or remain ignorant of ten thousand things, you want to know.

After dinner, my Lord requested us females to entertain Mr. Ware, as he was anxious to peruse the papers, before he saw Mr. Mandeville again; so retired to his study.—I confess, I wished he had ordered me to be of his party.

At that instant, the door opened, and my heart leaped to meet its long-loved master! I flew to receive him, and conduct him into another parlour, leaving the company to laugh at me, as I formerly should have done at any person in the same foolish situation.

When we had enjoyed a little tête-à-tête, we joined the party in the drawing-room; and my Belville paid his compliments, with that grace, which, if you credit my judgment, accompanies all his words and actions.

Pray



Pray do not suppose that nobody is to be admired and praised, but this same Indian stranger !

Tea over, we went into the garden ; but not till I had stolen up to Emily ; I found her dressing herself with an elegance that shewed her head was well ; whatever her heart might be !

My beloved companion and I, soon preferred a shady seat ; which neither thought of quitting till hearing voices near us, we looked up, and saw the company approaching, and increased by my Lord, the Colonel and his son.

We immediately joined them, and I presented Belville ; and taking out of my pocket, the letter I had inclosed to Colonel Mandeville, delivered it to him ; wishing him joy of the happy explanation.

‘ I have joy indeed, oh, Lady Anne, I am blessed beyond the power of words to express !’

On our return to the house, we met the blushing Emily ; she paid her proper compliments to the gentlemen, with that sweet timidity, which accompanies all she does ; but on this particular occasion, seemed rather more embarrassing to herself, than usual.

I watched Mr. Mandeville's tell-tale eyes ; and saw they were brightened with pleasure. Mr. Ware went home before supper, as his sister-in-law's having a bad cold prevented his wife's accompanying the Colonel and Mr. Mandeville.

Supper passed over more cheerfully than any I have seen here for a long time ; and before I retired to my own room, I determined to have some chat with Emily ; but she spoiled my scheme of teasing her a little by her artless sincerity ; for as soon as I remarked that Mr. Mandeville seemed to ' hang over her' as Milton says, ' delighted with looks of cordial love : ' she with great ingenuousness said, ' I confess, Lady Anne, ' till I saw Mr. Mandeville, I never formed a  
' with

' wish for marriage ; but I own with that sincerity which is due to you ; I should be happy to  
 ' be united to that amiable man. But my dear  
 ' Madam, be still my friend : assist me to conquer this too forward partiality for one I know  
 ' so little of ; one too, who may have views of  
 ' a very different nature !—I see my error, teach  
 ' me to correct it.'

I assured her I would, when I found it necessary. Her frankness has more than ever endeared her to me ; and I will assist her ; more however, according to the real wishes of her heart, than her request implies.

I wished her a good night ; and shall do the same by you.---For as this is Saturday, we must rise early to-morrow, to prepare for church. Adieu !

ANNE WILMOTT.

To

TO MR. HERBERT.

YOUR polite reply to my last, indulges me in the very thing I wanted, by finding a channel for my thoughts to flow into ; for they really crowd so fast, they want room.

Your absence from this part of the country, just at this time, therefore, though it deprives you of the pleasure of witnessing some interesting scenes, is, you see, very useful to me ; but you must forgive incoherencies, and inconsistencies ; I was always addicted to them : the strange events that have happened here within this week (and why should I not own the arrival of a certain person, of some importance to me) have not proved great regulators of my irregular ideas ; and I am but just able to recollect, that we all assembled

bled this morning before church time ; when the little pratler (who arrived before breakfast, as did Mr. Mandeville's servants, clothes, &c. as this is to be his home) told us, she was to go some day, to have her face washed at church. This her anxious father has told her, to prevent her being frightened at that part of the ceremony, when she is christened.

Suppose us at the church ; where I never had seen the Colonel so devout before.—Astonishment and pleasure beamed in his face, when the clergyman said, with an audible voice, just before the thanksgiving, ‘ Charles Mandeville, junior, ‘ desires to return most humble and hearty ‘ thanks, for his happy return to his native ‘ land.---’

I am ashamed to say, I suspected our new found friend was tinged with methodism. Thus I fell into the too common error, of thinking a display of more religion than appears necessary, or is customary, is hypocrisy : however a conversation

in the afternoon, made me see my fault ; and as a punishment, I own it to you.

After dinner, as the child was sitting in Lady Belmont's lap, her Ladyship said to Mr. Mandeville, ' I am going to ask a favour of you, sir.'——

' I am pretty sure your Ladyship can ask nothing but what will reflect honor upon me, to comply with.'

' It is, to be sponsor, when this pretty creature is made a christian.'

' I,' said the Colonel, ' must insist on being the god father, as my right.'

' Then,' said I, ' unless I take Lady Mary's place, I request to be the other god-mother.'——

Mr.

Mr. Mandeville gracefully bowed to us all; and said, ‘ It was gratifying his utmost wish, ‘ so to honor his dear little Indian; and I hope, ‘ to call upon you soon. For I flatter myself, sir, turning to his father, ‘ you will permit me to ‘ accompany you, next Sunday, to the sacrament; when I have obeyed our Saviour’s last ‘ injunction, it will complete my happiness to ‘ carry my child to be received into his flock.’

The Colonel replied---‘ Be not so precipitate, ‘ Charles, in matters of religion; let your ‘ daughter be baptized—to be sure that should ‘ not be delayed; but as to the other part, it ‘ is time enough, when your king and country ‘ call upon you, to prove your faith.’

‘ I find you think me too hasty, sir; but Mr. ‘ Gray has taken much pains and trouble to instruct me in my duty; and he has given me ‘ great satisfaction, by assuring me, I need not ‘ longer postpone a thing I so ardently desire. ‘ Your judgment ought to guide mine, but that ‘ you

‘ you may be the better able to form it, I will  
 ‘ unfold my sentiments, and lay before you the  
 ‘ plan I formed on my arrival in England.

‘ First, to study the Christian Religion in its  
 ‘ native purity ; then to seek out you, sir, and  
 ‘ try to obtain your blessing ; observing all the  
 ‘ time, to discharge my duty, in due care of my  
 ‘ dear wife’s pledge of true love : thus, when I  
 ‘ had endeavoured to make myself less unworthy,  
 ‘ to hope for a blessing from Heaven upon all  
 ‘ my actions, by a conscience free from self re-  
 ‘ proach—then---and not till then, to turn my  
 ‘ mind to such studies, as would make me a  
 ‘ worthy member of this country ; such as would  
 ‘ be no disgrace to my friends here, nor to the  
 ‘ country in which I had received my education ;  
 ‘ where, if I had acquired no learning, I had  
 ‘ seen no vice ; or at least, as little as frail na-  
 ‘ ture will permit us to know.

‘ I esteem it no small comfort, to gain the  
 ‘ blessings of the poor, therefore I have tried to  
 ‘ relieve



‘ relieve every distress I have heard of; and I  
 ‘ hope it will not be thought vanity in me, when  
 ‘ I declare, I have endeavoured to fulfil every  
 ‘ branch of my duty, as fast as I have learned  
 ‘ them.

‘ Time will, I trust, make me more perfect;  
 ‘ and in the mean while, I hope I shall be par-  
 ‘ doned the errors that arise from ignorance.

‘ What may I not hope for? blessed with a  
 ‘ forgiving parent, who pardons the fault that  
 ‘ has so long lain heavy on my conscience; and  
 ‘ with the example of such friends as surround  
 ‘ me!--And as to the goods of fortune, I have  
 ‘ wealth, more than enough, to satisfy the most  
 ‘ ambitious man!—

‘ Wonder not then, my dearest sir, that I am  
 ‘ impatient to give every proof of my gratitude  
 ‘ to the giver of all good, for his mercies to  
 ‘ me!’—

The Father could contain no longer, but in a voice of rapture, called out, ‘ Oh, Charles, my dearest son; thou art every way my superior !’

‘ Do not, sir, so confound me by praises I cannot merit, but rectify my errors; then, with an heart at ease, I can apply to proper studies; and hope to make myself in time, a useful member of my native land; never forgetting to serve, when I can, its cast off Colony, in the northern part of India’

‘ I find,’ said Lord Belmont, ‘ the best education is to be well instructed in virtue.’

‘ A virtuous mind, sir, is certainly the best soil for instruction-- keep out the rubbish of vice, and there will be no impediment to the fair growth of justice; which I consider as the main root, from whence all the other virtues shoot; and without which, there can, according

‘ cording to my notion, be no such thing as true  
‘ virtue.’

‘ Surely,’ said Colonel Belville, ‘ you have  
‘ lived with a race of philosophers !’

‘ Not so, sir ; they know neither the word,  
‘ or its meaning ; neither have they any books,  
‘ excepting four small ones, written in a lan-  
‘ guage, neither they nor I could read. They  
‘ have very little idea of any religion ; but the  
‘ little they have learned, has been continued by  
‘ tradition (without any addition or alteration,  
‘ they believe) from one generation to another,  
‘ for upwards of four hundred years ; and is  
‘ strictly adhered to.’

Lady Belmont said, ‘ You mentioned it as  
‘ your opinion, that they were a cast off colony  
‘ —from what nation ?’

‘ From England, madam, I am inclined to  
‘ think, for many reasons—first, their language,  
‘ though

‘ though materially different from ours, has  
‘ such a resemblance in the sound, and is so ex-  
‘ actly the same in some words, that I soon learn-  
‘ ed it, and they very soon acquired mine ; per-  
‘ haps, neither were very correct ; but each  
‘ soon understood the other, without difficulty,

‘ They worshipped one supreme Deity—the  
‘ invisible God of heaven and earth ; and all the  
‘ ritual they had, was the Lord’s prayer, the  
‘ creed, and the ten commandments ; which  
‘ were very nearly the same as ours :---the repea-  
‘ ting these, and singing hymns, is their only  
‘ form of worship. From these, they formed  
‘ their laws, which none infringed, without in-  
‘ curring sure disgrace.’

The Colonel said, ‘ I suppose their punish-  
‘ ments were very severe.’

No, sir ; they would not appear so in our  
‘ country :—murder is the only crime that is  
‘ punished

‘ punished with death ; and very seldom was it  
 ‘ committed.

‘ Their rewards are, an increase of honor ;  
 ‘ their punishments, disgrace ; which, in general,  
 ‘ is as much dreaded as death.

‘ For a known, a wilful falsity, the first offence was punished by disgrace ; the second, by banishment, for what length of time the superior chooses.—They are sent away to a distance, in a very large boat, which is to be stored with whatever they choose to carry with them. At the appointed time of their return, they are received in a very friendly manner ; and every hint of reproach strictly prohibited ; and so they often become worthy members of the community. In all the time I lived there, there was occasion to banish only two persons, —one of them came safe back, and is now a very worthy man.’

‘ Pray,’

‘ Pray,’ said Colonel Mandeville, what do you  
‘ mean by disgrace? and if they have no laws,  
‘ how can they be said to deserve it?’

‘ Sir, they have rules—to disobey them, is to  
‘ deserve disgrace---to explain the nature of that  
‘ disgrace, I must inform you, nobody has any  
‘ power there, but what age entitles him to;  
‘ therefore age is their ambition; and this is to  
‘ be gained by merit; or lost by demerit.’

‘ What, sir, can they make a man older or  
‘ younger, as they think proper?’

‘ Yes, sir; and nobody has any property of  
‘ any kind, but what the state allows, accord-  
‘ ing to his rank; which is determined entirely  
‘ by the age they have voted him to be of.’

‘ Pray, Charles, how old was you?’

‘ I was sixty, and unanimously offered to be  
‘ seventy.’

‘ How

‘ How old when you first went ?’

‘ They allowed me no age at all ; I was, in their estimation, the lowest person there.’

‘ What do you say ?——not a slave, I hope.’

‘ There is no such thing in the country ; nor have they the smallest idea what slavery means. My small knowledge of European customs, makes me a bad defender of the rules, disposition, and strict integrity of those worthy Indians ; but a whole race with more virtue, or less vice, I really believe cannot be found upon earth.’

‘ Well,’ said the Colonel, ‘ I must not call a son older than myself, child.’

‘ To my ear it would not sound extraordinary, as I have seen many a father his son’s junior ; for a person of an indolent temper, without ambition, may live sixty, seventy, or eighty  
‘ springs,

‘ springs, without attaining any age; and one  
‘ who has not seen thirty springs, may attain to  
‘ sixty, or seventy years of age, which none can  
‘ exceed.’

‘ So then you have been the eldest man in the  
‘ country.’

‘ No, sir; I was offered to be so, but I did  
‘ not think myself a proper object for so high an  
‘ honor.’

Pray, sir,’ said I, ‘ how do they determine  
‘ as to the women? I should suppose the giving  
‘ them twenty or thirty years, would be no great  
‘ incitement to virtuous actions; but, perhaps  
‘ they reverse it, and take years from them.’

Mr. Mandeville smiled, and said, There have  
‘ been very few instances, madam, of the wo-  
‘ men attaining any age at all.’

‘ Oh, sir, your servant; I am answered.’

‘ Do



‘ Do not, however, mistake me, madam,  
 ‘ and infer, that they think meanly of the sex  
 ‘ —it would be doing great injustice; but the  
 ‘ feminine merit is confined to the duties of do-  
 ‘ mestic life; and it has been very rarely known,  
 ‘ that any woman deviated from the general man-  
 ‘ ner of life, so as to be classed amongst the can-  
 ‘ didates for age: yet, were the honor to be  
 ‘ conferred on them, for private virtues, few  
 ‘ countries could shew more exemplary instances  
 ‘ of good wives, and amiable mothers, than I  
 ‘ have seen there.’

He sighed heavily, and I was sorry my slip-  
 pancy had probed a wound, hardly healed  
 yet.

My Lord interrupted Mr. Mandeville’s reflec-  
 tions, by saying, ‘ I have been so entertained  
 ‘ with the account of my countrymen in India;  
 ‘ and pleased with the proofs I have read of their  
 ‘ honest simplicity, and of the high affection  
 ‘ they had for you; that I must enquire if you  
 ‘ ever

‘ ever repented leaving England ; I should suppose you did not, by the information I have received of your being so greatly beloved, and so greatly honored by a wise, and virtuous people ; whose judgments were directed by native truth, candour, and honesty.

‘ I can assure the company, that Mr. Mandeville attained the highest honor, and most justly deserved the title of—honorable---which they bestow only upon exalted merit.’

His Honor looked abashed, but not daunted ; then, with a becoming dignity, replied, ‘ True, I was so rewarded, for some services I was so happy as to render these noblest encouragers of virtue ; and for their credit, and my own, will not disguise my sentiments.

‘ I never did repent leaving my tyrannical school-master, who whipped me as if I had been a slave ; for faults too, that I did not  
‘ commit ;

commit ; and charged me with falsehoods I  
' had never uttered.

' You must remember, sir,' turning to his fa-  
' ther, ' my complaining to you of his harsh  
' treatment ; you replied, I must go through  
' the school discipline——supplied me with mo-  
' ney, which enabled me to purchase candles  
' to add part of the night to my hours of study ;  
' and most luckily (as it has proved) gave me  
' that watch, which you knew again.

' One night, that I was particularly anxious  
' to excel my form in verses, (having, by your  
' desire, been absent from school the day before  
' they were to be given up) I was obliged to sit  
' up till past two o'clock, to complete my task.

' This made me unusually sleepy in the morn-  
' ing. A boy, as he went by my room, called,  
' and found me in bed ; and snatching my watch  
' off the table, ran away.

I slipped

‘ I slipped on my clothes, and after a scuffle,  
‘ recovered my watch.—My master caught us  
‘ in the fray, which had detained us both too  
‘ long from school. I was called up, but begged  
‘ leave first to go for my task, which I had left  
‘ in my other coat pocket.

‘ Fine excuse for idleness, sir.’

‘ There is no excuse, sir; give me leave to send  
‘ for it.’

‘ No, I dare say you have not got it ready—  
‘ I am certain you lie.’

‘ Sir, I should scorn to lie, whatever you may  
‘ think of me.’

‘ Ah! you are saucy, are you; I shall make  
‘ you suffer for it, assure yourself.’

‘ He then called up the other boy; a bigger  
‘ boy,

‘ boy, but not a better scholar—asked him, what  
 ‘ had been the cause of our quarrel.

‘ He replied, ‘ Mandeville was late in bed,  
 ‘ and on his hearing he would be too late for  
 ‘ school, grew surly, so we quarreled.’

‘ Did you not take his watch ?

‘ Yes, sir ; but it was out of jest, and he has  
 ‘ it again.”

‘ Well, I hope you have not neglected your  
 ‘ task to-day, as you did yesterday.’

‘ No, sir ; but in the fighting I lost it out of  
 ‘ my pocket.’

‘ Fye, fye, go your way, and be more care-  
 ‘ ful hereafter.’——‘ Now sir,’ turning to me,  
 ‘ I will give you a few strokes for telling me an  
 ‘ untruth, and for your sauciness.’

‘ He was as good as his word ; and whipped  
 ‘ me so cruelly, I was not able to walk ; and  
 ‘ for two days kept my bed.

‘ This manifest injustice would not let me  
‘ sleep at night, or have peace in the day ; and  
‘ I resolved rather to die, than continue in the  
‘ power of such a tyrant.

‘ As I was beloved by my school-fellows, I  
‘ was pitied by most of them. I had one fa-  
‘ vorite, a little older than myself, to him I told  
‘ my mind.

‘ He said, if I could get healed enough to go  
‘ off with him, in three days, when he went  
‘ to the Victory, where his brother was alieu-  
‘ tenant, and he was himself to be a midship-  
‘ man, he had no doubt but he could prevail  
‘ on the captain to take me ; as he was sure he  
‘ could answer for it, I was not a coward.

‘ I replied, no, no ; with fair play, I feared  
‘ nothing. In short, we managed so well, that  
‘ all my wearables were packed in his box ; and  
‘ it was late when he took his leave ; and I lock-  
‘ ed my chamber door, and contrived to steal  
‘ out, a little time before him.

‘ We

‘ We met at the appointed spot—took a post  
 ‘ chaise to Greenwich ; and then took boat, and  
 ‘ went off to the ship.

‘ The captain being informed of my arrival,  
 ‘ asked who I was ? and why I came thither ?

‘ At this moment, I determined to change  
 ‘ my name, to that of Woodville ; which, as  
 ‘ it was my mother’s, I thought I had an equal  
 ‘ right to—which I flattered myself, would pre-  
 ‘ vent any discredit to my family, for the step I  
 ‘ had taken, and also screen me from being  
 ‘ discovered, if enquired for ; I answered the  
 ‘ captain, therefore, by giving in that name ;  
 ‘ and told him, the cruel usage of my school-  
 ‘ master, and the love I had for my companion,  
 ‘ who I found was going away, had made me  
 ‘ take this resolution ; and that I only requested  
 ‘ to be admitted as a sailor’s boy.

‘ The captain replied, ‘ Have a stout heart,  
 ‘ and you shall be my boy ; but if you prove a  
 ‘ coward, I will throw you over board.”

‘ If I do, use me as you please ; only give me  
‘ leave, before you sail, to tell my father where  
‘ I am ; and that you have been so good as to ac-  
‘ cept of me.’

‘ He consented ; and I wrote you word, sir,  
‘ of my destination ; and assured you, whenever  
‘ I had an opportunity, I would inform you  
‘ where, and how I was ; but this letter was  
‘ not sent till the ship was under sail, lest you  
‘ should prevent my scheme taking place.

‘ The captain was very good to me ; and had  
‘ me instructed in all the kind of learning, ne-  
‘ cessary for the profession I had chosen : and  
‘ now all my Latin gave way to navigation, and  
‘ the study of the compass.

‘ One dreadful night, when I was so employ-  
‘ ed, I heard a most shocking scream ; I ran up  
‘ on deck, to enquire the cause ; the cry, from  
‘ every mouth, was for mercy, and that we  
‘ were lost !

‘ Whether



‘ Whether the ship, that instant, split, or  
 ‘ what happened, I know not, for all was, from  
 ‘ that moment, lost to me.

‘ My first knowledge, after this sad period,  
 ‘ was the finding myself in a hammock, amongst  
 ‘ people I did not know ; who spoke a language  
 ‘ I could not understand.

‘ I was so weak, I could not move ; an old  
 ‘ man often fed me with a tea-spoon. I per-  
 ‘ ceived I was very ill ; I was able, however,  
 ‘ to count the days ; and on the fifth day from  
 ‘ the time my senses returned, the old man took  
 ‘ me up, and carefully dressed me ; and I was  
 ‘ rejoiced to find, I had my watch, and my  
 ‘ money that was in the clothes I had on, when  
 ‘ I recollected going upon the deck of the Vic-  
 ‘ tory. I offered the good old man my money ;  
 ‘ he smiling, stroked my head, but rejected  
 ‘ the money ; and gave me two blue shirts ; and  
 ‘ was thoroughly kind to me.

‘ I grew soon well, and as far as I could un-  
 ‘ derstand, did every thing I thought they bid  
 ‘ me

‘ me do. I believe there were forty-five men in  
‘ the vessel, besides myself.

‘ At the end of forty days, the ship seemed  
‘ strangely tossed about, and in every face, I  
‘ read horror and despair ; and I suspected, they  
‘ did not know where they were.

‘ This lasted four days, the misery plainly  
‘ increasing—food grew scarce ; each day added  
‘ to that misfortune ; and, in a fortnight’s time,  
‘ twenty men died.

‘ My grief was excessive, at seeing my good  
‘ old man failing : I had, for several days, given  
‘ him two parts of the provision that was allotted  
‘ to me ; he, finding himself going, gave me a  
‘ bottle, and by signs, bid me take but little of  
‘ it at a time.

‘ He soon after expired, which grieved me  
‘ exceedingly ; and I felt as if I had lost my only  
‘ friend : indeed, though we could not make  
‘ each

‘ each other understand what we said, I had experienced much kindness from his compassionate care of me. I could not forbear letting the few survivors share my bottle, whilst it lasted ; so it was soon exhausted.

‘ At length, there was but one man and myself left alive : we were nearly starved ; and that unhappy man died just before the ship ran a-ground, for want of hands to steer it.

‘ When the ship split, a place discovered itself, which I (and probably many more in the vessel) did not know of ; where there were a few poultry, and a little corn. Had this been found sooner, it might probably have saved a few lives.

‘ In my forlorn and helpless situation, it was of no use to me, and I gave myself up ; when, by the kindness of some men, in a kind of boat, I was almost miraculously saved. Thus was I,  
‘ in

‘ in the space of a few months (I know not how  
‘ many !) twice rescued from the jaws of death !

‘ Forgive this long detail—I should have stopp-  
‘ ed sooner ; but observing a kind attention,  
‘ which could only proceed from the interest  
‘ taken in my preservation ; I could not resist  
‘ the inclination I felt to continue my story,  
‘ till I was in a safe harbour ;—A heart, now  
‘ lightened from so many sorrows, as long op-  
‘ pressed mine, gives a rapid utterance to a  
‘ tongue, unused to be very loquacious.’

My Lord said, he fancied all his auditors, as well as himself, had been too much entertained, and too deeply interested in his account, to think he had been tedious ; and he was certain, all wished him to proceed to farther particulars of a conduct, that had reflected honor on all belonging to him ; but as he should be sorry to tire Mr. Mandeville, they would defer asking him any of the many questions, each must long to have answered.—Then rising, told Colonel Mandeville,

Mandeville, he must beg to speak with him in his study ; and I heard his lordship say, as he passed me, ‘ It is time to consult about the melancholy business we are to appear upon so soon.’—The horrid trial which is to be in a few days !

The recollection this has brought to my mind, makes me unfit, for the present, to write any more.

Indeed, I have already scribbled a most voluminous packet ; but your wish to hear every particular relating to this wonderful man, must plead my excuse. As time permits, and occurrences arise, I will add to my history. Adieu !

ANNE WILMOTT.

TO MISS KITTY FORTESCUE.

THE fates have decreed, that I shall be your correspondent, by stopping the pen of your friend.—Now, perhaps you will fancy it is the praises you bestow on my narratives, that makes me willing to continue them ; but you are mistaken ;—my fondness for praise, is not extinguished, for I am alive, and a woman ! but it pleases now, only from one mouth—there was a time, any mouth that uttered it, was certain of delighting me.

I expect you will confess I am very good, when thus engrossed by one object, to find time to write to you ; however, to check your vanity, I must tell you, I do not devote those hours to you, I could spend with that one ; but I am an  
early

early riser, and a late fitter up ; I write fast, and am never idle ; therefore I have more power of indulging the curiosity of my friends, than most would have in my situation.

Emily's pen is not laid by from idleness ; but in playing with that sweet child (who hardly ever leaves her) she contrived to strain her right thumb, so must employ a deputy for some time.

Her last, she tells me, gave you an account of Mr. Mandeville's story, as far as we have heard it. I doubt not, but it was a very accurate repetition ; for she listened with attentive ears to each syllable he spoke ; and her heart, I dare say, vibrated to each account of ' dangers he had pass'd !'

Read Othello's description of Desdemona's listening to his tale of wonders, and it will give you a perfect idea of poor Emily——and save me, me much trouble.

Yesterday morning, as she and I were chatting before breakfast in the gallery, the child came  
out

out of her father's dressing-room, and ran up to us, and taking hold of my apron, said, ' Pay  
' come, and see mama and Miss Hoad.'

Not being able to guess what she could mean, we let her guide us into the room, where we found Mr. Mandeville reading; and two figures on the table, that almost petrified me with astonishment, from the very strong resemblance they had to Emily.—They were done in the same manner of that we had seen at Meadow House, resembling Mr. Mandeville.

He rose, and throwing aside his book, said, ' I am obliged to my little girl, I find, for the  
' honor of seeing you here.—Dear creature, she  
' will have it, these miniature statues are her  
' mama, and Miss Howard, I confess, I too, see  
' the likenesses.'

Emily coloured; and I laughing said, ' They  
' are her very self; but how is it possible you  
' could so soon complete two such figures? they  
' are both alike, but I think you have flattered  
' her.'

' Bless



‘ Bless me, Lady Anne, you surely do not  
 ‘ seriously think me capable of taking a lady’s  
 ‘ likeness, without her leave ; but truly, these  
 ‘ figures do not so strongly resemble Miss How-  
 ‘ ard, as she does my angel-like wife !’

Emily said, ‘ They were done for sisters, I  
 ‘ suppose.’

‘ No,’ said the little prattler, ‘ mama, and  
 ‘ Miss Howard.’

‘ I cannot get that idea out of the child’s head,  
 ‘ which proves the likeness ; but they were both  
 ‘ done for my dear departed saint, in the dress  
 ‘ of the country ;—that, with the white feathers,  
 ‘ represents the maiden daughter of an honor-  
 ‘ able, with five stones in the feathers ;—the  
 ‘ black feathers, with seven stones, is worn only  
 ‘ by the wives of the honorables.’

I was much charmed with these beautiful ima-  
 ges, and will try to describe them to you.

‘ They are about twelve inches high, elegantly  
 dressed, and with sweet countenances ; only that  
 with

with the white feathers, seems to have a younger face than the other ; and has the most engagingly modest look you can conceive :—the other seems to be a little older, and to have, added to that modest innocent look, an air of dignity, but wholly from haughtiness.

The dress of both, is a blue silk jacket, and petticoat ; with short sleeves, which reach only to the elbow, and is there turned up with white cambrick (or what appears so) pinked in a pattern, like lace ; a tucker the same.

The eldest figure had a white gauze, fastened at the top of the left shoulder with diamonds, and hanging down to the right hip, where it was plaited close with more diamonds ; and from thence, it flowed gracefully, so as to touch the ground ; and, as Mr. Mandeville told us, is occasionally thrown over the head as a veil.

On the head of this figure, over short, curling, light brown hair, was a small white cap ; on the right side of which, there was a bunch of black feathers,

feathers, which hung from the head ; and were tyed with a blue riband, that reached the other side of the head, where it was fastened in bows ; —amongst these feathers, were placed seven large diamonds.

In the younger figure, the veil was of silver gauze (such as this pretty child wears) the feathers were white ; there was no cap ; and instead of diamonds, there were five amethysts, mixed with the feathers, and amethysts also to fasten the veil on the hip and shoulder, where the elder figure had diamonds ; all the other parts of the dress alike.

I said, ‘ I never saw any thing so beautiful, or so pleasing, as these two figures.’

He replied, ‘ he had seen two as good ; one for ever lost ! the other then present.’

Emily gave him a look, mingled with pleasure and confusion ; then said, with a blushing cheek ‘ she feared Lady Belmont was waiting breakfast,’  
and

and so it proved ; for our excuse I told her the cause of our rudeness.

Her ladyship requested to be indulged with a sight of the images.

Mr. Mandeville immediately went for them, and her ladyship saw the resemblance as strongly as I had done.

She enquired how the child came to call one of them mama, and not the other ; she should have supposed she would naturally take them both for Miss Howard, as she concluded she could not recollect Mrs. Mandeville.

‘ I should imagine, madam, it is not possible she should ; but I have before shewn her, that she calls her mama ; and told her who it was for. The other she never saw, till to day, when I took it out of the box, to examine it particularly.’

He left us to guess why !

That

That afternoon we missed Mr. Mandeville, just as we were going to tea, and could learn nothing more of him, than that, on hearing his child cry, ‘ he had gone hastily into the garden, ‘ to see what ailed her.’

We all immediately went thither, to look for him ; but soon slackened our paces, on hearing the sweetest pipe that ever charmed my ear.

Accustomed as I have been in Italy, to the most melodious voices, I felt, in every nerve, that I had never before listened to such sounds.

I could almost hate this man for excelling in so many ways, not only the generality of his sex, but even my beloved Harry, his unfortunate brother.

I turned to Belville, assuring him that I should certainly leave him to wear the willow, if I were convinced I could prevail on Mr. Mandeville to return my passion.

The

The confident wretch, with a smile, said,  
 ‘ Then I am pretty secure, for Mr. Mandeville  
 ‘ has declared, there can be no virtue, which is  
 ‘ not founded upon justice.’

When we came up to the seat, and mentioned how we had been delighted, Mr. Mandeville told us, that finding his little darling had got a fall, he had began singing a little favorite song of her’s, to divert her attention from the pain her tumbling had given her ; and inadvertently had gone on, and sung a song of more compass, when the child had left him to go to her maid, for a longer walk.

Lady Belmont entering the octagon temple, which she had not done for several months, said,

‘ As the afternoon is so fine, suppose we drink  
 ‘ our tea here ; and, perhaps Mr. Mandeville  
 ‘ will be so kind as to pursue the history he began  
 ‘ yesterday.

‘ With gratitude to heaven, I own your return  
 ‘ has proved a peculiar blessing ! in alleviating  
 ‘ ating

‘ating sorrows I thought nothing could have  
‘lessened.’

She wiped her eyes, and after a sigh, said—

‘I think you much the same in face, you was  
‘in your childhood; when you was always a  
‘great favorite with me.

‘I ever thought you very like your poor mo-  
‘ther—a very excellent woman!

‘She was as partially fond of you, as your  
‘father was supposed to be of your brother.—  
‘Do you remember her at all!’

‘Yes, madam, but not so perfectly as I did  
‘your ladyship; I never have forgotten that,  
‘the last time I was at home, before I left  
‘school, your ladyship heard me read, and  
‘gave me a guinea, and a very pretty pocket  
‘book, saying,—Charles, be a good boy, and  
‘I will love you for your mother’s sake.’

‘I re-

‘ ‘ I recollect it,” said Lady Belmont, and heartily have I wept for the sad fate we supposed had befallen you ; and thought it a comfort your poor mother had not lived to see that day :—but the decrees of providence are above our comprehension !

‘ We grieve for those, who, if acquainted with our sensations, pity our folly.’

Poor Lady Belmont’s pity had pierced her own heart !—her voice faltered, and she could not proceed.

Mr. Mandeville perceiving her distressful feelings, immediately turned the subject, just as my Lord and the Colonel joined us, by saying, rather abruptly—

‘ Your ladyship asked, yesterday, if my wife was fair : I do not recollect that I answered you then (as I truly could) that she was fair, was wise, and as good as human nature could be !

‘ The



‘ The natives of Youngland are all white ;  
 ‘ that circumstance, and the name of their  
 ‘ country, confirm my idea, that they came  
 ‘ originally from England.

‘ They have a natural benevolence ; I was  
 ‘ treated with an humanity that would have done  
 ‘ honor to christians, even before I was of any  
 ‘ age ; and when, of course, I was looked upon  
 ‘ as the lowest person in the kingdom.’

‘ Why,’ said the Colonel, ‘ should they de-  
 ‘ spise you so much ? you was an acute sensible  
 ‘ lad at school ; surely they did not take you for  
 ‘ an idiot.’

‘ No, sir, but we must allow for national cus-  
 ‘ toms ; age is with them honorable ; but no  
 ‘ one can attain it, in their country, let them  
 ‘ live ever so many springs, till they have, by  
 ‘ some means or other, proved beneficial to the  
 ‘ country, so that a person may become honor-  
 ‘ able, that is to say, may be sixty years of age  
 ‘ when he is very young ; and he may have lived  
 ‘ sixty

‘ sixty springs, and still be deemed of no age :  
 ‘ or he may, by misconduct, go back to ten  
 ‘ years of age, from sixty.

‘ Had I chosen to have continued in Young-  
 ‘ land, I should immediately have been seventy;  
 ‘ when I married I was sixty.’

A general laugh ensued—the first that has been heard in these gardens, since the unhappy walk I took with Lady Julia !

My Lord asked Emily, if she could like to live in a country, where the older a man was, the more desirable for a husband ?

She replied, she had always respected age, when only acquired by living long ; but when it arose from growing old in virtue, it must surely be still more estimable.

Mr. Mandeville’s eyes brightened with pleasure, at the artless manner in which she displayed sentiments so favourable to him.

I hoped

I hoped secretly that his lordship would see how matters were, and was sufficiently cured of experiments, to be content to let this couple proceed in the beaten path. Alas! he has dearly paid for the winding one he planned before!

We had more chat, but I have not more time at present, so must hasten to say, adieu.

ANNE WILMOTT.

To

TO MR. HERBERT.

I CANNOT pretend to write methodically—method was never my forte ; and now, it would be very unreasonable indeed, to expect I should try for it.

I think, therefore, you will be content with my penning down such conversations, as I imagine you would have been pleased to be present at.

But before I relate any, I must tell you, that Lady Belmont's spirits are so much exhilarated by the late fortunate events, that I flatter myself, when you return to this part of the world, she will be able to enjoy your company ; and I am sure your compassion has made you forgive her ladyship's having hitherto shunned it.

Persons who have been so severely wounded, do not discriminate, nicely, the cause of their suffering: could she have done this, she must have seen that her's had been owing to poor Harry's impetuosity, more than to your unfortunate forgetfulness, in not leaving his address with your servant.

My Lord's stronger mind, enabled him to distinguish more justly.

Pity her, therefore, but do not condemn her; for she has an amiable as well as a susceptible heart!

Now to my story—

Colonel Mandeville asked his son, the other afternoon, from whence he concluded the country and religion of these Indians, had formerly been the same as ours.

G

‘ I believe,

‘ I believe, sir, I mentioned to you the great  
‘ similitude in the language to ours ; though they  
‘ knew nothing of the art of writing, till I was  
‘ happy enough to instruct them in it ; and had  
‘ only four books, which neither they nor I  
‘ could read.

‘ As any thing struck me particularly, I wrote  
‘ it down ; and when we could converse, enquir-  
‘ ed into the meaning of what I had not under-  
‘ stood ; and wrote down all the instructions I  
‘ received, which proved a great help to me.

‘ I soon found they worshipped one supreme  
‘ Being ; whom they believed to be the God of  
‘ heaven and earth.

‘ They could repeat the creed, the Lord’s  
‘ prayer, and the ten commandments—said they  
‘ were taught from generation to generation,  
‘ that they were to learn these ; and not to make  
‘ any alteration in their religion, till a man or  
‘ men, should come amongst them, dressed as a  
‘ painting

‘ painting described, and should instruct them  
‘ out of a book he would call the bible.

‘ This painting I saw, when I attained the  
‘ age of ten years, in their estimation ; and I  
‘ found it be a picture of an English clergyman,  
‘ dressed exactly as ours are.

‘ Their church stands in a large piece of  
‘ ground, about six acres ; which is walled  
‘ round : a row of very large trees surrounds it.

‘ There are doors out of this wall, which  
‘ open into square rooms, about ten feet high ;  
‘ which are repositories for whatever they think  
‘ worth preserving, and transmitting to poste-  
‘ rity ; which they do by paintings, as well as  
‘ we do by writing ; or at least, so as to be very  
‘ intelligible.

‘ In one of these rooms, the original settle-  
‘ ment is delineated ; there are four pair of men  
‘ and women, hand in hand ; preceded by one  
‘ man,

‘ man, who stands by himself, holding a cross  
‘ in his hand.

‘ The first couple is followed by seven chil-  
‘ dren ; the second by six ; the third by five ;  
‘ and the last by two, only.

‘ In the next room, is a melancholy represen-  
‘ tation of the man with the cross, expiring ;  
‘ many of the men and women lying dead, and  
‘ all the children, excepting eight.

‘ In the next room, is a painting of the few  
‘ survivors ; amongst which, I reckoned eight  
‘ children ; the eldest seemed to be under nine  
‘ years old, and was a girl ; and there was one  
‘ child not three years old.

‘ They have a tradition, that no one, who  
‘ was above twelve years old when they went  
‘ thither, ever survived two years.

‘ From



‘ From these eight children, descended all  
 ‘ the present race of Younglanders ; for they  
 ‘ only are white, the neighbouring nations are  
 ‘ tawny.

‘ In the next room, is painted the Lord’s  
 ‘ prayer, creed, and ten commandments.

‘ In the next, rules (which are as laws to  
 ‘ them ; and more strictly observed, than our  
 ‘ laws are amongst us.)

‘ Some of these rules are, that a man must  
 ‘ be twenty years before he is a fire ; fires, are  
 ‘ under the direction of ancients, who are al-  
 ‘ ways above that age ; ancients are directed  
 ‘ by honorables, who are sixty ; and honorables,  
 ‘ are under the command of the most honorable ;  
 ‘ who is chosen by the unanimous voices of  
 ‘ each class or tribe, of fires, ancients, and ho-  
 ‘ norables.—When chosen, he is deemed se-  
 ‘ venty.

‘ I conclude

‘ I conclude you bear in mind, I am not  
‘ talking of the number of springs they have seen,  
‘ but of the age allotted to them, according to  
‘ their conduct.

‘ The most honorable is never more than one  
‘ person at a time : he can lay down his dignity,  
‘ if he has the consent of the tribes, but not  
‘ otherwise ; and they can degrade him, if he  
‘ should turn out unworthy of the great post he  
‘ has acquired ; but then it must be done by  
‘ the unanimous voice of each class, or tribe.

‘ Every tribe is distinguished by their colours ;  
‘ the fires are white, the ancients green, the ho-  
‘ norables blue, and the most honorable red.

‘ Every person, male or female, must wear  
‘ the colour of the tribe to which they belong.

‘ The heads of that tribe, wear silks ; the in-  
‘ ferior stuffs :—nothing is left for fancy, but  
‘ the ornaments on the head and stomachers  
‘ of

\* of the fair sex ; which they may adorn as their  
 \* taste directs, only distinguishing their tribe  
 \* by their colour ; and their rank in it, by fea-  
 \* thers in their head ; and the degrees of that  
 \* rank, by the number and kind of precious  
 \* stones, mixed with those feathers.

\* The single women cannot wear diamonds,  
 \* or more than five stones, though daughters of  
 \* an honorable : the wives must wear a kind of  
 \* cap ; if wives of an honorable, they must wear  
 \* black feathers, and have seven diamonds mix-  
 \* ed with them.

\* All who have not arrived to the class of fires,  
 \* eat promiscuously with the dependents (or ser-  
 \* vants, as we should call them) in a lower hall.

\* The fires, ancients, and honorables, eat in  
 \* an upper hall ; but the food is exactly the same  
 \* in both—wholesome, clean, and well (though  
 \* plainly) dressed :—no luxuries of any kind.

\* An

‘ An infant is brought by its parents to church ;  
‘ where it is, by a painting, registered in the  
‘ tribe in which it is born ; and an hymn sung  
‘ suitable to the occasion, which very simply ex-  
‘ presses, a thanksgiving for the birth of a child ;  
‘ and a hope, if it is a boy, it will deserve to be  
‘ most honorable ; if a girl, that it may be the  
‘ mother of a most honorable ; the Lord’s pray-  
‘ er, creed, and ten commandments, are then  
‘ repeated, which closes their ceremony of bap-  
‘ tism.

‘ When a couple is to be married, the bride  
‘ is led to church, by her father, or nearest of  
‘ kin ; an honorable meets them at the entrance,  
‘ with a gold chain, and a lock at one end of it.  
‘ This chain he puts over them both, then locks  
‘ it, and throws the key into a pit, which runs  
‘ into the river ; a hymn is then sung, expres-  
‘ sive of their wishes, that they may live happily,  
‘ and produce a race of honorables, or mothers  
‘ of honorables ; then the Lord’s prayer, &c.  
‘ are repeated, as at baptism.

‘ The

‘ The married couple go home, attended by  
 ‘ all the friends of each ; the chain is then taken  
 ‘ off, by slipping it over their heads ; and care-  
 ‘ fully laid by, as their most valuable possession.

‘ They have a piece of ground allotted to each  
 ‘ tribe for a burying-place ; that for the most  
 ‘ honorables, is, of course, the smallest.

‘ I should have mentioned, that amongst the  
 ‘ repositories, there is a room, filled with all  
 ‘ the necessary wearables for children ; and all  
 ‘ the articles for their immediate or future use ;  
 ‘ which is constantly to be kept full, as it is from  
 ‘ the common stock ; every child is to be suppli-  
 ‘ ed, till it is past ten years of age.

‘ They have one law (or rule, as they call  
 ‘ them) which is, that any man, having lived  
 ‘ twenty-five springs, without gaining any age,  
 ‘ is then to become a member of some useful oc-  
 ‘ cupation for the good of the whole community ;  
 ‘ but if they invent any new art, or become par-

‘ cularly famous in those already known, they  
‘ gain the age of ten years, and so may advance  
‘ in years according to their merit.

‘ This class is distinguished by wearing yel-  
‘ low; and they may marry whilst in it; but  
‘ their wives must go into their class, and wear  
‘ their colour, till an advance in age, entitles  
‘ them to a higher distinction.

‘ The rule that appeared to me the most un-  
‘ reasonable, is, that if a woman, by accident,  
‘ or choice, sleeps one night, in any man’s  
‘ house, without one of her parents, or next of  
‘ kin being with her, in the same house; the  
‘ master of the house, or his son, if either are  
‘ single, may, after daylight, demand her in  
‘ marriage, if they choose it.

‘ She has the liberty of refusing, but it is upon  
‘ hard conditions; because she must then leave  
‘ her father’s house in a fortnight’s time, and

‘ go into the class of useful employments ; any  
 ‘ one of which she may choose that best suits  
 ‘ her taste and abilities ; and in that class she  
 ‘ must continue, and wear its colour ; unless  
 ‘ marrying into a higher tribe (which there is no  
 ‘ rule against) gives her a right to become one  
 ‘ of them, and to wear their colour of course.’

‘ I think I must have fatigued my audience,  
 ‘ I am sure I have myself ; but I hope, sir,’ turning  
 to his father, ‘ you see reasons now to be of  
 ‘ my opinion, that these Indians came originally  
 ‘ from England.’

The Colonel acknowledged he did ; and wished  
 their mother country had made as wise laws for  
 themselves, as had been made by their colony.

Before we went to bed, my Lord called me  
 into his study, and told me, he thought the pa-  
 pers Mr. Ware had given him, should now be  
 perused by us all ; as they would make us all  
 acquainted

acquainted with Mr. Mandeville's conduct, and character; and elucidate many particulars in his narration; but as they must be painful to Mr. Mandeville to hear, for many reasons, he begged an opportunity might be taken in his absence, to peruse them.

He said, we had best copy them amongst us; for he desired the originals should be returned to him; as he meant to preserve them with great care, that they might descend to future generations.

As my pen and fingers are equally worn out, I have desired Colonel Belville to employ his leisure hours in transcribing them; by which contrivance, I shall abridge him of many opportunities of teasing me to fix an important crisis of my fate, which I am coward enough to dread; — and shall relieve myself more ways than one.

When



When he has written enough to make a packet  
you shall receive it from,

Your's, &c.

ANNE WILMOTT.

MEMOIRS

## M E M O I R S

Written by Mrs. M A N D E V I L L E,

*And given into Mr. Ware's hands, a little before  
her death.*

**W**HEN the dear giver of every home-felt joy to me, shall happily arrive (as I pray to God he may) in his native land, the innate goodness of his heart will, I am convinced, dress my character to his friends, in the dignity of his own virtues; when, alas, how few would have fallen to my share, but for him!

He found my mind like an uncultivated piece of land: no pains had been taken, but to prevent

vent noisome weeds, from choaking its original virtue ; for all nature has some, even in infancy, if closely attended to, we may discover a tendency to right or wrong principles.

The improving the former, and eradicating the latter, as they happen to appear, should be the governing design of every instructor.

My parents took every possible care to keep my mind from error, by permitting me to see only what was good, and keeping from my knowledge every thing that could degrade human nature.

I was their only child, and had lived eight springs, when my mother, by a fall, broke her leg.

It was attended by no worse consequences, than the unavoidable pain and confinement ; during which time I had never left her, but strove,  
by

by all the little attentions my juvenile years could pay, to lessen her uneasiness.

My father had, as well as herself, observed my assiduity with pleasure; and one fine afternoon my father said to me,

‘ Agnes, your dutiful care of your mother  
 ‘ has given me great satisfaction; but I think  
 ‘ such constant attention, and confinement, may  
 ‘ hurt your health: I perceive you neither eat,  
 ‘ or look so well, as you did before this accident;  
 ‘ therefore, you shall ride with me to day; and  
 ‘ to reward you for being so good a girl, I will  
 ‘ shew you a new sight; and the exercise and  
 ‘ air, may give you a better relish for your sup-  
 ‘ per.’

My mother said, ‘ Go, my dear, I am quite  
 ‘ easy this afternoon.’

Without any inducement of amusement, I had  
 been taught that obedience was the most necessary  
 duty

duty of a child, and the foundation of all other merits.

I flew, therefore, to prepare for my little excursion ; and soon saw my little horse at the door, with my father's.

Observe, though I call it a horse, yet I now know, we have no horses in Youngland ; but we call every creature by that name on which we ride ; sometimes it is an ass, a calf, a large dog, a deer, &c.

As we rode, we met my two cousins, Hubert and Mirza.

My father asked them, if they would accompany us ; adding,

‘ I am going to shew Agnes the sea, which, as it is quite new to her, I expect it will delight and please her much.’

We

We all clambered up the sides of very steep mountains, covered with woods; and much higher than I had ever mounted before.

We then quitted our horses, and walked on a delightful plain; bounded on three sides by the sea, the setting sun illumined every object.

My father observed, with every mark of pleasure, the rapturous astonishment, which appeared in my face; and felt all a parent's delight at my remarks; answering my questions in a manner that, 'made my senses tutors to my mind.'

As I went very near the brow of a rock, which hung over the sea, he called out to me to be careful; and asked what I looked at so attentively? I said, 'on yonder great moving thing; is it a fish?'

He came to the part I stood on; and when I had pointed it out to him, said, 'no! child, I think

‘ think it is not a fish ; but I will soon know  
‘ certainly, then calling to my cousins, he  
‘ said.’

‘ Hubert, do you see Agnes safe home, and  
‘ your brother and I will try to find out what that  
‘ is, we see yonder.’

So saying, he and Mirza struck rapidly into a wood, hanging on one side of the mountain ; and Hubert and I returned home.

In about two hours afterwards, arrived my father, accompanied by three men, who had several baskets in their hands ; but my father brought the precious burthen, which was a boy, seemingly dead.

He carried him to his own bed, giving the men some orders about the things they had brought.

My

My father continued, till long after I was in bed, with this boy.

The next morning at breakfast, he said to me.

‘ Agnes, I promised to tell you what that was,  
 ‘ you showed me on the sea—I then saw it  
 ‘ was part of a vessel, in distress ; so took Mirza  
 ‘ a short way I knew through the woody side of  
 ‘ the mountain, down to the water side ; from  
 ‘ whence I got boats, and took men, ropes, and  
 ‘ every thing we could collect in a short time ;  
 ‘ and went to the spot you pointed to, where we  
 ‘ discovered a melancholy sight indeed ; part of  
 ‘ a ship, in which were found dead men (one  
 ‘ hardly cold) and one boy who seemed expi-  
 ‘ ring ; some half starved fowls and various ar-  
 ‘ ticles.

‘ All that had any signs of life left, we brought  
 ‘ away ;



‘ away ; and left people to take care of such  
 ‘ things as could be saved.’

My mother said, she feared the poor child  
 could not live ; he was too weak to speak, and  
 could hardly open his eyes.

‘ My father replied, ‘ he was doubtless very  
 ‘ near dead ; and, though I never saw the me-  
 ‘ dicines we have given him, have so little ef-  
 ‘ fect, in such a number of hours, yet, I am  
 ‘ not without hopes, as he is undoubtedly bet-  
 ‘ ter than when I found him.

‘ I conclude the ship he was in, has by some  
 ‘ storms, been driven out of its course ; and pro-  
 ‘ bably has been tossed about long enough, to  
 ‘ have the poor creatures that were in it, starv-  
 ‘ ed to death ;——the four corps we saw, had  
 ‘ that appearance.

‘ We will do our best for this unfortunate  
 ‘ child ;

‘ child ; the event is in the hands of God : I  
‘ have sent for the most skilful man I know, to  
‘ direct what is fittest for his case.

‘ If he lives, he may reward our cares ; if he  
‘ dies, the consciousness, that we have done our  
‘ duty by him, will be a reward.’

Three days passed, before there were any hopes of his life ; on the fourth he gave some signs of returning senses.

In this time, I had twice seen him, and I cried heartily, at so sad a sight.

My mother commended me for feeling so much compassion ; and with her eyes full of tears said.

‘ I grieve for his poor parents, who are probably, now lamenting the loss of him.’

She

She sent me, however, to divert me, to feed the poultry; those that were brought from the ship, I fed first, because they were strangers; and gave them a second feeding, as they were most hungry.

One amongst these, I thought prettier than the rest; and when I returned, asked, ‘If that might not be mine?’

My father looked at me with more sternness than I had ever seen in his face before; and said,

‘Girl, do you consider what you ask? is it mine to give?’

‘Why not father, you took them from nobody; but for you they must all have died; and would die now, if you did not feed them.’

‘True

‘ True, Agnes ; yet, who do you think has  
‘ the best right to them, the poor sick boy, or,  
‘ I?’

‘ The boy.’ ‘ Certainly,’ said my father ;  
‘ you would think so if you were in his place ;  
‘ and never forget, what I told you once be-  
‘ fore, that you are always to do by others,  
‘ what you would have others do by you ;  
‘ and then, you will never be unjust ; for  
‘ nobody chooses to have others unjust to  
‘ them.’

‘ Oh, then I know why you are so kind to  
‘ this poor boy ; because, if I was from home,  
‘ starved and almost dead, you would wish such  
‘ care should be taken of me, as you now take  
‘ of him.’

My father melted into tears, kissed me, and  
said, ‘ yes ! my dear girl.’

‘ Then

‘ Then I will feed his fowls carefully, and  
 ‘ they shall be all his if he lives.’

The fifth day, the doctor said, he had never known the remedies he had applied, of so little use ; he believed, indeed, his senses were returned, though he spoke but seldom ; and then, what could not be understood ; but that he had shewn a wonderful aptness to learn—his situation considered—for in about an hour after he heard somebody say father, he had repeated the word very right ; and then added several more, which nobody present could understand.

The doctor then told my father, his longer stay could be of no use—that he had given him the last medicine in his power to administer—that if this cordial did not revive him, he would die by the next rising of the sun ; if he outlived that hour, he would probably recover.

My father said, then he would sit and watch him, till that time was past.

He did so, and the poor boy slept six hours  
——waked refreshed——eat some of such food  
as the doctor had ordered to be given to him,  
and went to sleep again.

The sun being now quite risen, and the boy  
apparently mending, my father went to lie down  
for some hours.

After he got some sleep, he rose, and went to  
the poor boy's room; and in a few minutes came  
to my mother, and said, he believed he had  
saved the life of a very good child; because, when  
he opened the door, he heard a weak voice pro-  
nouncing what he could not understand; and  
as he went farther into the room, he saw the poor  
creature on his knees, by the bed side, and so  
intent on the duty he was performing, that he did  
not take any notice of him.

So he withdrew to the door, without speaking  
to disturb him, at his prayers, for so, he verily  
believed, he was employed; for though he could  
not

not understand all he said, yet he distinctly heard the words, God and Father, pronounced several times.

He said the poor boy was weeping heartily.

From this time, he recovered surprisingly fast ; and spoke very often for a great while together, what we could not understand ; yet he soon knew many of our words.

The method in which he expressed his thanks, was by bowing, which he would often do; and I thought in a much prettier manner, than any body I had ever seen.

He would also often kiss my father's hand; and I used to wonder, he never kissed mine.

On the eighth day, he was able to rise early, and put on his clothes himself.

The next day he was able to come out of his  
H 2 room :

room; and on the following Sunday, hearing somebody say the word church, he immediately repeated the word, held up his hands, and turning about, kneeled down, with his face to the wall.

My father thought he would like to go to church, and join in our devotion; and so asked him, by signs and words; he understood enough of both to shew he wished to do so; and accordingly went with us; but, as he has since told us, was much surprized to find our church, and form of worship, so different from what he expected.

To our equal surprize, he repeated the Lord's prayer, &c. as well as we could ourselves; yet he could not say any of the hymns; excepting the word God, and a few other words.

A month passed on, without any extraordinary event.



He learned our language ; and whilst he was acquiring it, we, almost imperceptibly, learned his.

My father was very kind to him, and very fond of him ; yet he never let him eat at our table.

One day, I asked if Charles Woodville might not dine with us.

‘ No,’ replied my father ; ‘ when he has gained any age, he shall be treated accordingly ; but in the mean time, why should he be treated differently from our own natives ?’

‘ Till he is ten years of age, you know he cannot have a home of his own, let the number of his springs be what they will.’

‘ Poor child,’ said my mother, he will never have one ; for no foreigner ever lived two springs here.’

I hope

‘ I hope otherwise,’ said my father ; I have so  
 ‘ great an affection for him, that I have had a  
 ‘ consultation between his doctor, and the most  
 ‘ experienced persons amongst us.

‘ It appears that his constitution is a particular  
 ‘ one ; for when so near dying, he did not seem  
 ‘ to have any complaint but weakness ; and of  
 ‘ that, with all others, the high cordials he took,  
 ‘ generally perfected a cure in twelve hours ;  
 ‘ with him, it was several days, before they took  
 ‘ any effect.

‘ Then again, I have hopes from his age ;  
 ‘ for our paintings shew us, that all under twelve  
 ‘ springs lived, and I do not think he reckons  
 ‘ more.’

My father’s hopes were verified :—the dear  
 Woodville—for dear he was then to me, though  
 my young heart was unconscious of its feeling  
 more than pity for him—grew in strength and  
 beauty, to every body’s admiration.

He

He never staid longer in the eating-hall, than the meal made necessary; yet behaved when there, with such cheerfulness and good-nature, that all his companions in it loved him.

He was ever employed in some kind of study; and in two months, was as perfect in our language, as if he had been a native.

My father often was with him in his retired hours; and he selected a set of young people, whom he associated together, and called it, ‘A youthful society for useful arts.’

Each was to endeavour to find out some new one, or improve upon those already known.

Woodville produced writing upon paper; till then, painting was the only method of delineating their thoughts to a person at a distance, or of transmitting them to posterity.

The utility of this new method, was mentioned

ned to the heads of several tribes ; and Woodville expatiated so clearly upon its advantages, that they were all charmed with the discovery ; and the honorables petitioned the most honorable to confer a reward upon Woodville.

The most honorable, whose greatest pleasure it is to reward merit, sent for him the next day, and asked him which tribe he chose, to be enrolled in.

Giving him a painted table, and bid him give it to the head of that tribe he chose ; explaining to him the nature of this enrollment ; then shook him by the hand, with great cordiality ; and told him, he hoped, as he found their nation was so prone to reward merit, it would inspire him with the noble ambition of deserving the continuance of favors from that country, which had now put him upon the same footing, as any native, who was made ten years of age ; which is always the first period given to any.

Our

Our people know not what the word politeness means, but express their sentiments in a plain, unaffected, and generally, very concise manner; but they all proved, that they had no dislike to more polished language; for they were all charmed with the respectful, modest, and yet dignified manner, with which this young man received their favors.

When he came home, how lovely did he appear; his face was brightened with an unusual cheerfulness—had a manly serenity, yet had lost none of its natural modest air.

My father, who had been witness of what had passed at the assembly of the honorables, and most honorable; for the first time, took him by the hand; saying,

‘ Woodville, I wish you joy of your early advancement; I hope it is an earnest of future rewards to your merit.’

‘ I shall rejoice to see your age advance rapidly to seventy.’

He thanked my father, with his eyes filled with grateful tears.

Then respectfully bowing, he put the painted table into my father’s hand; requesting him to accept it.

My father looked it over, said,

‘ With real pleasure, I receive you into my tribe, and am glad it is your choice; some little forms are necessary, according to our rules—to-morrow you shall choose your abode, and be furnished out of the common stock.’

He modestly replied, ‘ My youth and ignorance, will, I hope, plead my excuse, if I omit any of the proper tokens of respect, that can shew my gratitude to you; who, next to the Almighty, have been the preserver of my  
‘ life;

‘ life ; and enabled me to make that life a blessing, by shewing me how to gain a reputation, which reflects more honor upon you, than upon me.

‘ I can only say, I still beg your advice ; that my conduct may answer my wishes, and make me a worthy member of your tribe.’

From this day, he was constantly at our table, and a still more constant inhabitant of my heart ; which trembled, when my mother asked him how many springs he had lived.

I dared hardly allow myself to breathe, whilst he told her, that he fancied he was not eleven ; he knew he was but a little past ten, when he left England, and he thought that could not be twelve months ago.

The joy I felt, was inexpressible, on hearing he was not arrived at the fatal period.

He continued his studies in his own house, and in two springs compleated a book to prove, that we were originally of the same country ; from the similitude of the name of England and Youngland ; of many words in each language ; of our worshipping the Deity, by the same appellation ; and in some parts in the same form, as the Lord's prayer, creed, and ten commandments ; but he should be better able to shew this, when the heads of his tribe gave him leave to go over the whole nation.

My father (who spent many hours every day with him, and, as well as myself, and many others, had been taught the art of writing by him) quickly replied,

‘ You will hardly gain my approbation for  
 ‘ that scheme ; because our people are bordered  
 ‘ with neighbours of a very different disposition  
 ‘ —tawny men, fierce in their natures, and cruel  
 ‘ in their practices ; destroying in a barbarous  
 ‘ manner,



‘manner, all who go to them, and are strangers.’

He was therefore obliged to be content with this answer ; for two springs more, we saw little of him at our house ; but my ears were daily delighted with his praises.

‘The wonderful young man,’ as he was generally called, was the theme of every tongue : so early did he inspire every person, that the old listened with serious attention ; the young were only happy in seeing and hearing him ; and I, far happier than any other, when so blest.

At the end of four springs, he gained consent to be absent two springs ; and to take with him any five of his young companions who chose to go.

During which time, he was to send a messenger once a month, with a written account of his employment.

By

By these, it was found, he diffused knowledge wherever he went; and was a general benefactor.

But my father (who received the greatest delight from these testimonies of Woodville's merit) was much surprized one morning, when he saw the most honorable approach our dwelling, followed by six men, each bearing a piece of painting.

This was a very unusual thing; for the most honorable used to send for those he wanted to speak with, and never hardly condescended to go to them.

All the respect our simple manners permit was shown.

My father went out to meet, and conduct him in; and my mother, and the rest of the family, were ranged on the outside the door, to welcome him.

His greatness seated himself, and then said,

‘ Friend, as you have been the preserver of  
 ‘ the wonderful young man, enrolled into your  
 ‘ tribe, it is fit to reward your care, by telling  
 ‘ you, he proves a most excellent member of the  
 ‘ community.

‘ I have therefore myself conducted hither the  
 ‘ messengers from six tribes (which you know is  
 ‘ near half our nation) which have been sent  
 ‘ with paintings of the great services he has per-  
 ‘ formed amongst them.

‘ Order the bearers to open the paintings, and  
 ‘ to give their own account.’

This being done, the most honorable said,

‘ The honorables have desired I would shew  
 ‘ my wonted justice, in conferring favors on their  
 ‘ great benefactor:

I have

‘ I have considered the paintings, and listened  
‘ to the bearers accounts ; and, as a reward to  
‘ his deserts, I decree, that he shall have a room  
‘ in the wall of the church yard, devoted to these  
‘ trophies of his merit, as our ancestors have  
‘ had—you shall keep the key.

‘ On the outside of the door, paint his device,  
‘ the same that is put on his house door, and  
‘ mark him aged forty.

‘ Ten years we gave him before he went out ;  
‘ I add five now, for each tribe he has so well  
‘ served :—adding, ‘ he is the first youth, who  
‘ has not seen fifteen springs, that ever gained  
‘ forty years.

‘ If he returns home with unsullied credit, I  
‘ mean to meet him with a welcome that will  
‘ please him.’

One of the strangers replied,

‘ Alas !

‘ Alas ! he will come back to you ; wherever  
 ‘ he has been, every method has been tried to  
 ‘ prevail on him to continue there, but all in  
 ‘ vain ; he says, he must go home (meaning  
 ‘ here) and then, when he can quit home (mean-  
 ‘ ing where he came from) to England, to a  
 ‘ father who grieves for him.

‘ He will not accept of any authority with us,  
 ‘ except to direct us, which is for our own be-  
 ‘ nefit.”

All the strangers said the same, and that ‘ He  
 ‘ had taught many of them his language, and  
 ‘ some to write—we all endeavour to receive his  
 ‘ instruction—we see in his looks he is as honest,  
 ‘ as we find him brave, generous and humane ;  
 ‘ and our rules tell us, we are never to suspect,  
 ‘ before we have been deceived ; nor ever again  
 ‘ trust the man who has deceived us ; but this  
 ‘ young, and virtuous man, will never de-  
 ‘ ceive us.’

The most honorable replied,

‘ I like your gratitude, and I hope you are satisfied with my justice.

‘ Tell your heads, what I have done to prove both.

‘ To Woodville, say—that he has deservedly attained the age of forty—he has full liberty to go where he pleases, and to stay as long as he pleases; as we rely on his truth and honor, that he will return to us, the Ten Tribes of Cantwell Plains, in Youngland.’

Alas, this message damped the joy I had felt.

I had counted the hours of his absence, with heart-felt transport—I saw the allotted time was nearly expired.

But

But my time of sorrow was to be lengthened—he had leave to prolong his stay ; and well I knew where glory and honor called, he would continue.

However, I determined to devote my time to the improvement of myself so much, that I might make an impression on the only heart I wished to gain.

In this manner, three more springs were spent ; and then some sad months, in which we neither saw, nor heard from him.

All were uneasy ; my parents greatly so ; but their concern was but the anxiety of friendship—mine proceeded (though unknown to myself) from a tenderer source.

My misery was greatly increased, by my father's talking to me of marriage—mentioned the youths who had chosen me ; and bid me fix on him I most approved.

Alas,

Alas, he was not there ! and were he come, how could I be sure he would prefer me ?

I wept, and pleaded with my father.

Whether he guessed the true cause of my rejecting offers which fairer maids would have approved, I know not ; but he yielded to my intreaties and dismissed lovers I could not accept.

At the end of seven springs and a half, from the time Woodville had left us, I saw my father return one morning, from the mansion of the most honorable ; with such pleasure in his face, as made my heart tremble with joy, ere he spoke.

He soon confirmed my hopes, by saying, that yesterday, messengers arrived at the mansion, with the welcome account, that six of their oldest chiefs were conducting Woodville home, with all marks of gratitude : — that they were to stop at Luton, three miles off.

He



He called all his dependants, and gave them orders to spend the day in festivity; and lay aside all business, from eight in the morning till sunset; and the next day to prepare to meet the returning hero.

The next morning every thing was so altered, one could hardly know either the place or the people.

All were adorned with things never brought out, but on great occasions; and every body seemed cloathed in diamonds and precious stones.

Select bands of people playing on various kinds of music; others singing; others carrying the most refreshing, and pleasant liquors.

We have none that intoxicate—mirth and drunkenness do not unite with us.

Others with baskets of sweet-meats, and cakes; others with baskets of flowers, to strew the way.

Each

Each party keeping close to each other, yet in great order, and all in the colour of our tribe, which was blue, ornamented variously, where we were allowed to display our fancy.

My hours, from the time of my father's arrival, had been devoted—may I own my weakness, to making my poor self appear as amiable as I could.

Never had I taken so much pains—never had I so little succeeded, in my own opinion.

So long had I altered and changed my ornaments, that my mother, who waited for me, grew impatient, and we reached the mansion but just in time; for the most honorable was setting out, accompanied by the honorables, all in heir robes of dignity—then the ancients, and the fires—then the young men, according to their age—then the youths of no age—next followed

followed the matrons—and last, went the maidens.

We walked slowly on, for about half an hour, in this order ; when music began, on the sight of the party we went to meet.

We soon perceived people bearing Woodville's trophies ; that is to say, paintings of the great actions he had performed.

When the hero, and the ancients with him appeared in sight, the trophy bearers parted of each side, as did our procession, and made a lane for the chiefs and the hero.

They presented him to the most honorable.

The modest, yet dignified appearance, his beautiful person made on that interesting occasion, is as far beyond the powers of my describing, as the effects it had on my heart, are impossible

possible to be understood by any, but those who have loved like me!

He respectfully bowed to the most honorable first —gratefully receiving the favors conferred on him; then, generally to all; but with a marked distinction in his manner, to my parents; but of me, did not seem to take any particular notice; — ough (as he has since told me) his heart felt all the animation, the sight of a loved object, long absent, must give to a feeling mind.

During this ceremony, the melody of voices, and harmony of the accompanying instruments, chaunting his praises, must have charmed every ear, that was not closed for ever.

The conversation was wholly on his exploits; it was remarkable, that the relators of them, spoke in his language; and when he spoke (which my father told us, was but seldom) it was always in ours.

The six old men, or chiefs, that attended him, desired, after dinner, that the paintings might be produced, and they be permitted to explain them; adding, that his modesty had desired many things to be suppressed, which did him equal honour; but that he said they were only what he had learned from books and observations in his own country; and what it gave him the highest satisfaction to teach us; for to serve a nation, whose whole study consisted in practising virtue, and excluding vice (in whatever specious form it might approach) must be a delightful task, and could deserve no recompense.

After this preface, they informed the most honorable, and the rest of the company, of the transactions, in the following manner; the eldest beginning, and the second taking it up, when he was tired, and so on till the whole had been related.

But before they began, Woodville begged permission to retire; which was granted, by the most honorable.

‘ When this hero,’ said the eldest chief, ‘ came  
‘ first amongst us, he found us in the depth of  
‘ misery—hourly deploring the inroads made  
‘ upon us, by the savage Monoroys, and the  
‘ cruelty of their havock.

‘ He made many enquiries into the manner of  
‘ our fighting, and of their’s, and into the na-  
‘ ture of the weapons each used.

‘ He then desired to be conducted to our  
‘ forges, and workshops.

‘ He found them mean, and ill qualified, ei-  
‘ ther by the skill of the workmen, or nature of  
‘ the works, to produce any useful effect.

‘ He called in the assistance of his five compa-  
‘ nions; and having obtained our permission,  
‘ they

‘ they gave such instructions, and shewed them  
 ‘ by their own performances, the method of ex-  
 ‘ ecuting them, that in a fortnight’s time, our  
 ‘ store-houses were filled with a variety of wea-  
 ‘ pons, utterly unknown to us.

‘ He rose every morning with the sun, and  
 ‘ taught all that wished to learn the use of these  
 ‘ new implements of war:—in all, above a  
 ‘ thousand men became skilled in this unusual  
 ‘ exercise.

‘ He then covered pieces of glass, with quick-  
 ‘ silver, and had them fastened in the front of  
 ‘ each man’s cap or hat.

‘ Having thus prepared us for war, he taught  
 ‘ us many useful arts in peace ; but finding our  
 ‘ bad neighbours were quiet, he desired not to  
 ‘ molest them ; and told us, he must leave us,  
 ‘ and go to another nation, as he was to return  
 ‘ to Camtwell, at the expiration of two springs.

‘ Two days after his departure (which  
‘ though we had greatly grieved for, we found  
‘ additional cause to lament) the inhuman Mo-  
‘ noroys stole upon us by night ; destroying,  
‘ in a most cruel manner, every thing they met  
‘ with, excepting the women and children ;  
‘ whom, to our inexpressible sorrow, they carried  
‘ away with them.

‘ Our arms were of little use ; we were attack-  
‘ ed in the dark, and over powered by numbers ;  
‘ and as we well knew the Monoroys first use the  
‘ women as their barbarous passions direct, and  
‘ then eat them and the children, our horrors  
‘ were not to be described.

‘ Luckily some, who had nothing worth saving  
‘ but their lives, ran away :—one of these meet-  
‘ ing with Woodville, gave him the shocking  
‘ detail of our sufferings.

‘ The youth, without hesitating a moment,  
‘ mounted his horse (a kind of deer, so fierce,  
‘ even



,even he could never manage him, but by blind-  
 ‘ ing his eyes; and though he would not bear  
 ‘ the touch of a whip or spur, or even a saddle;  
 ‘ yet, with his master’s stroking and speaking  
 ‘ to him, became so gentle as to be guided by a  
 ‘ slight rein; he loved this creature so much,  
 ‘ that he has brought him hither) and soon he  
 ‘ returned to us.

He found me lamenting, with bitter tears and  
 ‘ lamentations, the captivity of my wife, my  
 ‘ mother, sister, and four children.

‘ All he spoke to, had similar misfortunes.

‘ He shewed us, that our grief, however just,  
 ‘ would produce no remedy—that could only  
 ‘ be obtained by our valour; and exhorted all  
 ‘ who had courage, to follow him.

‘ He proceeded directly to the store-house of  
 ‘ our arms and ammunition, followed by a great  
 ‘ multitude.

‘ He

‘ He chose out five hundred of the ablest, to  
‘ continue under him ; ordering all the remain-  
‘ der to march different roads—not to attempt  
‘ fighting, if they could avoid it, till all parties  
‘ met ; saying, ‘ The glass in your caps, will  
‘ enable you to distinguish your friends from  
‘ your enemies.

‘ He desired each man to take bread, &c.  
‘ enough to last five days.

‘ He immediately set forward the direct road,  
‘ with his chosen band.

‘ The third day, we were in sight of the ene-  
‘ my’s chief town ; our detached parties were also  
‘ come up to us.

‘ The enemy poured out by sun rise, the next  
‘ day, in such swarms, as would have terrified us,  
‘ had we not soon found, that our new arms  
‘ saved us from their attack.

‘ Their

‘ Their arrows fell harmless on our targets ;  
‘ whilst our spears and cutlasses, created infinite  
‘ havock amongst them.

‘ But still more arrived to supply the place  
‘ of those that fell——amongst this last body of  
‘ Monoroys, was their king.

‘ The sun was now high, and shone out  
‘ bright ;—the reflection from the glass, almost  
‘ blinded, and completely terrified them ; so that  
‘ they threw away their bows, arrows, knives  
‘ and hatchets, and fell on their faces.

‘ We immediately demanded the prisoners ;  
‘ asking, eagerly, if they were safe.

‘ They declared, they had not eaten one yet,  
‘ nor had persuaded one woman to yield to their  
‘ wishes.

‘ Our hero, unwilling to destroy more lives,  
‘ commanded hostilities to cease, in case this  
‘ proved

‘ proved true ; and bid them lead him to the  
 ‘ captives, as they were all alive and unhurt.

‘ He then ordered the enemy’s weapons to be  
 ‘ piled on a heap, and set fire to.

‘ This done, we entered their city ; our hero,  
 ‘ giving orders that no damage should be done  
 ‘ to their possessions, nor any outrage committed  
 ‘ on the person of any of its inhabitants who are  
 ‘ peaceable.

‘ This clemency made them look upon us, as  
 ‘ more than mortal !

‘ He then ordered all the women and children  
 ‘ that had been taken from us, to be brought  
 ‘ forth.

‘ I should have observed, that before, he had  
 ‘ taken only their number from our account, and  
 ‘ gone alone to reckon them ; not choosing to  
 ‘ trust us with the sight of objects so dear to us,  
 ‘ whilst

‘ whilst it was possible there might be a necessity  
 ‘ to avenge the general cause.

‘ Think, oh! most honorable, and hono-  
 ‘ rables, that our heads—think what must be the  
 ‘ joy of each of us, when we again beheld our  
 ‘ wives, our children, our mothers, and our  
 ‘ sisters!

‘ After we had given way to sensations impos-  
 ‘ sible to be described, our brave warrior came to  
 ‘ us, saying,

‘ Let us now determine what is proper to be  
 ‘ done, to convert your enemies into friends.’

‘ We all called out with one voice, we would  
 ‘ be directed by him.

‘ Then,’ cried our brave commander, ‘ let  
 ‘ us teach them humanity—let us slaughter no  
 ‘ more lives; but shew mercy to the poor wretch-  
 ‘ es, who prove willing to bring in their arms,

‘ and submit to us—let us allow for national  
‘ customs—it is theirs to be cruel—may our ex-  
‘ ample teach them to be humane.

‘ If any among you can speak their language,  
‘ let them come to me.’

‘ Two of our men, who could, immediately  
‘ came.

‘ He ordered them to proclaim, that all who  
‘ would bring their arms, and acknowledge us  
‘ the conquerors, should be freely pardoned.

‘ He then commanded all his friends to kneel  
‘ down publicly, and jointly return thanks to  
‘ God for their success.

‘ The inhabitants of the city, who had been  
‘ clamorous in their screeches and lamentations,  
‘ no sooner heard the proclamation, than they  
‘ were as loud in their praises of the victor’s cle-  
‘ mency.

‘ Immediately

‘ Immediately they brought us all sorts of provisions, and a plentiful store of drink.

‘ Most of us had eaten heartily ; and were just going to quench our thirst, when the two men, who had been sent to make proclamation, entered with the king of the country.

‘ He directly overturned, or broke all the vessels that contained the liquor ; and spoke in a very loud tone, and seemingly angry tone, to his people.

‘ He then demanded which was our chief.

‘ The two men having pointed him out, he made an obeisance ; and desired the men to explain to us the following speech—

‘ I am these wretches’ king ; but not the director of their baseness.

‘ The army I led out against you, can all witness for me, I was ignorant of the mischief  
‘ the

‘ the invaders had done in your country, till it  
 ‘ was too late to prevent it. .

‘ I am now more happy, in arriving time  
 ‘ enough to prevent the cruel effect of the trea-  
 ‘ chery intended you.

‘ ‘The liquors, brought you by these bad men,  
 ‘ under the mask of friendship, were all poison-  
 ‘ ed ; and had I been ten minutes later, your  
 ‘ lives would have been sacrificed to their base  
 ‘ inhumanity.’

‘ To prove this he called a dog, and made  
 ‘ him drink some of the liquor that was on the  
 ‘ ground ; with horror, we saw him expire in a  
 ‘ few minutes, in shocking torments

‘ The King then called for Zamor, and Guia-  
 ‘ far ; presenting them to our hero, he said——

‘ These are trusty, honest men—you may  
 ‘ confide in them :—with me, you may do what  
 ‘ you please, but ah, spare my son !

‘ Give



‘ Give what orders you think proper for your  
 ‘ safety, and be our friends ; and I think I can  
 ‘ answer for it, you will not repent it.’

‘ Whilst he was speaking, Zamor and Guiafar  
 ‘ came with vessels of drink ; presented some of  
 ‘ it to the king, he tasted it, and desired it might  
 ‘ be given round.

‘ The two interpreters informed us, that he  
 ‘ requested, that for a few minutes, he might  
 ‘ be permitted to act with the same authority he  
 ‘ had formerly done.

‘ Consent being given, he immediately gave  
 ‘ orders that every one of those ungrateful,  
 ‘ treacherous wretches, should be slain.

‘ He was directly obeyed.

‘ They fell, without exciting compassion, even  
 ‘ from their fellow citizens : for nature, in its  
 ‘ uncultivated state, abhors treachery and deceit.

‘ Our

‘ Our friendly king (who had been reinstated  
‘ in the throne, by the clemency of our hero)  
‘ told us, by the means of the two interpreters,  
‘ that if we could conquer the neighbours on the  
‘ right hand of that city, we should have no oc-  
‘ casion to fear any future molestation ; and in  
‘ gratitude to us he offered to assist us.

‘ After debating amongst ourselves, upon the  
‘ wisdom of the scheme, we agreed to undertake  
‘ it, if our victorious commander would direct  
‘ our plans.

‘ Successful as it proved in the end, it was  
‘ very near being fatal to us, to you, and to  
‘ mankind ; by being the cause of the greatest  
‘ misfortune—the loss of our brave young leader !

‘ He and two of his most intimate compani-  
‘ ons, having tired themselves with walking,  
‘ one day lay down to sleep in a forest.

‘ A bear

‘ A bear issued out of the thickest part of it,  
‘ and attacked them with great fury.

‘ Woodville, though first and most hurt,  
‘ struck the bear with his cutlafs; this made the  
‘ bear more fierce, and he severely wounded  
‘ him; but at length, the united efforts of our  
‘ hero, and his companions, destroyed the fero-  
‘ cious animal.

‘ But their joy was soon damped, on perceiv-  
‘ ing how much Woodville was hurt, and that  
‘ he was fainting with loss of blood; when a  
‘ peasant happening to pass that way, and learn-  
‘ ing the cause of their distress, ran into the  
‘ wood, with amazing swiftness, and, in a  
‘ short time, returned with some herb of sove-  
‘ reign use to stop bleeding, and heal the most  
‘ desperate wound.

‘ He stamped upon it, and applied it to the  
‘ parts, covered them with a leaf, and bound  
‘ them, so as to keep on this herb.

‘ In

‘ In ten days the wounds were perfectly healed; but he was still so weak, from losing so large a quantity of blood, that he was obliged to continue in that country some time.

‘ Happy was this accident in the event; for by his continuance amongst these savages, he civilized them wonderfully;—they loved, admired, and obeyed him! calling him by the name of the god they worshipped! and being willing to adore him as such, he found it therefore an easy matter to settle a peace, productive of mutual benefit to all parties.

‘ But the great difficulty was, to bring these savages to bind themselves, in a manner their laws made sacred, not to eat human flesh again.

‘ However, when they were convinced, that without such vows, Woodville and his friends were determined to consider them as enemies, they

‘ they at length consented ; and took their most  
 ‘ solemn oath, never more to eat human flesh ;  
 ‘ and as a proof of their sincerity, they brought  
 ‘ us all the captives, reserved for their barbarous  
 ‘ feasts :—amongst these, was Mr. Christopher  
 ‘ Ware, an Englishman, who had been ship-  
 ‘ wrecked, and fallen into the hands of these sa-  
 ‘ vages.

‘ Had you seen the joy our commander disco-  
 ‘ vered at the sight of his countryman, you would  
 ‘ have melted into tears, as we all did, who  
 ‘ were present.

‘ One of our paintings will shew you this  
 ‘ scene ; others will also shew his wisdom, va-  
 ‘ lour, and humanity ; whilst others represent  
 ‘ how kind, and beneficent he has been to us.

‘ He has taught us to make instruments that  
 ‘ will cultivate our lands with less labour, and to  
 ‘ more

‘ more advantage ;—he has instructed us how to  
‘ use them.

‘ He has directed us to improve our houses ;  
‘ and to make some tenemen's under ground to  
‘ fly to, for a defence against hurricanes.

‘ He taught a most ingenious workman to  
‘ make a wonderful machine, to hold a bell ;  
‘ which strikes the hours, and tells what time it  
‘ is, when we cannot see the sun.

‘ Many of us understand his language now,  
‘ as well as we do our own.—But the paintings  
‘ cannot express his mild, humble, and generous  
‘ behaviour to us.

‘ A stranger would suppose he was the obliged,  
‘ and we his benefactors ; whereas our greatest  
‘ praise has been, that not one amongst us has  
‘ ever shewn any envy of him, or ever spoke a  
‘ word that has not been in his praise.

‘ To

‘ To conclude (though we could go on for many moons in repeating his merits) it is our unanimous request, that you, most honorable, the head of all the tribes, will confer the highest dignity our rules will permit, on the greatest, and best man we ever knew; and that you will think well of our tribes, for thus returning in safety, the most useful friend, and kindest benefactor; and so with wishes for your health and prosperity, and that of the Ten Tribes, committed to your immediate care, we take our leaves.’

The speaker stopped.

‘ Such a silent attention had been afforded him, as was surprising in so numerous an audience; but then the applause from every mouth, burst forth so instantaneously, that nothing distinctly could be heard, till Emargon, the most honorable, rose up to speak.

When

When all was hushed again—

‘ Stay, chiefs, at my desire, that you may  
‘ hear, and report to our friends, how readily  
‘ I comply with their just requests ; and what  
‘ pleasure it gives me to find such grateful hearts  
‘ in the people committed to my care.’

His greatness then ordered Woodville to be sought for.

As soon as he appeared, the most honorable with a becoming seriousness in his countenance, said,

‘ Welcome, thou worthy young man !—  
‘ young in springs, but old, very old in every  
‘ virtue that can make a man deserve to be loved  
‘ and honoured, by a virtuous, brave, and free  
‘ people ; who are too noble to envy merit,  
‘ where they find it ; and too honest to applaud,  
‘ where it is not deserved.

‘ Such



‘ Such are the people who require of me, that I should reward you to the utmost of my power.

‘ You deserve my rank, but as the general voice gave it to me, I hold it as a duty incumbent upon me, never to part with it; unless those who gave it, demand it of me; but what I can with honor give, you shall receive.

‘ I made you forty years of age, before your return; I now make you sixty—you can advance but ten more; and can gain those only by filling my place.’

Woodville advancing to kiss his hand, Emargon thought he was going to kneel, and drew back; but observing his mistake, he said,

‘ Pardon me, for supposing you ignorant of our rules, which enjoin us to kneel, when children, to our earthly parents; but when we are grown up, only to our God.—May that Almighty Governor of the world, bless you in  
 ‘ every

‘ every virtuous act and desire !—may your own  
‘ parent live to know, and rejoice at the high  
‘ honors you have merited from a generous peo-  
‘ ple, who know how to distinguish, and reward  
‘ virtue.’

The most honorable then took off his hat, and waving it in the air, gave a signal for those shouts of joy, which could hardly be restrained till he had done speaking.

Tears were soon observed, where least expected; when Emargon named ‘ The parent’s joy.’

Our hero shewed a feminine softness, and the tender emotions he felt, for some minutes choaked his voice; at the same time, every father wished their son like him.

Recovering his wonted calmness, he thanked the most honorable with the same modest grace, that accompanies all his actions.

Emargon

Emargon then gave orders to fit up a house suitable to Woodville's high dignity; and commanded the paintings that the six chiefs had brought, should be conveyed to that repository he had before assigned for Woodville's trophies; and then dismissed the assembly, that each might end with cheerfulness, a day that had given so much pleasure.

We all retired from the most honorable's mansion; each one of our tribe invited whom they pleased; and Woodville, and his English friend, accompanied my father and mother, and myself, to our abode.

After dinner, we had singing and music, and concluded the evening with dancing.

My father had requested the chiefs that accompanied Woodville, to stay that day, and enjoy the jubilee made for the return of their loved hero.

of his seriousness, and partake of the festivity of the day.

The following month was the happiest I had then ever known : I enjoyed the truest delight an innocent mind can feel in conversing many hours every day, with the sole possessor of my heart.

Fleeting hours ! too soon they passed, and gave way to many painful ones ! for Woodville then declined being so much at our house—seldom joined us in our walks or pastime ; and to me, who knew neither joy or sorrow, but as created by him—those walks, and pastimes, had no longer power to charm !

My father was almost constantly with him ; declaring his society was more instructive, and more pleasing, than any other he could find.

In this way, six more moons passed on ; after which, I heard of a plan formed by Woodville,  
and

It was pleasant to observe with what surprise they viewed the man, whom they had seen only as an instructor, and a warrior, divest himself and executed by his directions, that was thought the most beneficial, that had ever been known in Youngland; for it remedied the greatest misfortune the country laboured under, which was the want of water.

Three large lakes supplied us with all we had; and the fetching it from thence, was very troublesome.

Woodville convinced our most honourable, that he could, by pipes under ground, convey it to every house; his orders were strictly followed, and the event answered beyond expectation.

The joy and gratitude of all the people was so great, they loaded their benefactor with their most valuable gifts, which were their choicest; feathers, gold, diamonds, and precious stones,

K

they

they sent him an abundance of; not because they thought them valuable enough to be a reward for so great a service as had been done them, but because they understood they were estimable in his country.

He received their presents, with the same modesty, and graciousness he had ever shown.

His countryman, having by this time learned, how fatal a longer stay in our nations would probably prove; as he was of mature age, when he came amongst us, determined to leave Youngland, and try to return home.

Woodville wished to accompany him; my father strongly opposed it, set before him the dangers, and little probability there was, of his ever reaching his native home.—the only place he preferred to this.

Whilst this matter was in debate, my sufferings were dreadful.

How

How can I relate the dumb sorrows of a heart, that had ruined itself with love? I had no cause to reproach myself for my choice, indeed, for who could blame me for admiring the most perfect of the human race?

He possesses a wisdom that was unequalled—the most courageous spirit, softened with the gentlest manners; a heart so pure, that error and falsehood never gained admittance in it; they found no friendly passion to countenance them; neither could I reproach him; he had taken no pains to win my artless love.

My hapless situation soon reduced me to a truly pitiable state; an unhappy mind, occasioned a disordered body; and loss of sleep, and want of appetite, banished the roses from my cheeks; and reduced me to such weakness, I was unable to leave my room.

Woodville, who had long seen, and grieved for my sufferings; spent much time with me,

and the friend of my youth, my dear Mura; who hardly ever left me.

She had been my loved companion, from the days of childish innocence; she alone had been the confident of my sorrows, my joys, my hopes, and my fears!

One day Woodville, finding me alone, seemed for a little time lost in thought; then suddenly rousing himself, he took my hand and said, ' my dear Agnes, thou sister of my heart, I must  
' seize this opportunity, to unfold that heart to  
' you.

' We are both above deceit, I scruple the less  
' therefore, to confess to you, that I am wretched;  
' ed; not all the honors heaped upon me, can  
' mitigate the torment I endure, at seeing my-  
' self the cause of your illness.

' It has been my constant endeavour, since  
' I perceived your partiality to me, to avoid  
' making



making you unhappy; for this purpose, I have, since my return to Camtwell, frequently absented myself from this loved house, lest I should be the means of your still refusing offers, that would be thought worth your accepting, were you not prepossessed in my favour.

‘ I have gone too far now, not to tell you every thought of my heart; oh! that your’s could receive comfort, by reading in that heart, that it prefers you to every other fair.

‘ From your attachment, and your parent’s goodness, I might hope for every happiness arising from such a union; could it be founded on virtue!—But alas, it must not be; I must not wed here! you know my story; you know I have an offended father.

‘ I trust, Heaven and he, will forgive my fault; but till I am forgiven by him, and restored his favour, I cannot be happy.

‘ I cannot therefore marry and settle in  
 ‘ Youngland ;—it would be an ill return to make  
 ‘ your amiable tenderness, to give you a runaway,  
 ‘ whose conscience is loaded with guilt ; who  
 ‘ would, though blest with you, hourly feel the  
 ‘ reproaches of his own mind.

‘ I cannot therefore stay here!——I cannot  
 ‘ forsake the wife who loves me ; neither can I  
 ‘ resolve to give up for ever, the father I have of-  
 ‘ fended !

‘ Pity me, my dear Agnes ! let the love of  
 ‘ truth, which inspires us both, operate so, as  
 ‘ to prevent your blaming me, if I have been  
 ‘ too presumptuous in supposing myself so dear  
 ‘ to you.

‘ I almost wish I may have been so ; as then,  
 ‘ you will comply with your friends wishes, and  
 ‘ unite with some equally worthy, and more  
 ‘ happy man !

‘ I confess to you, your parents and I have  
 ‘ often conversed on this topic; they see, and  
 ‘ feel for my sufferings; consult with them;  
 ‘ let their counsel direct you.

‘ Oh! may it teach you to find more happi-  
 ‘ ness than can be enjoyed by me, who am con-  
 ‘ sidered as the most fortunate, and blest of mor-  
 ‘ tals; alas! how little do they guess the mis-  
 ‘ ries I endure!

‘ If my peace of mind is dear to you, endea-  
 ‘ vour to regain your health and spirits;—make  
 ‘ a noble effort—an effort worthy of your piety,  
 ‘ your tenderness for your parents, and your ex-  
 ‘ alted understanding.

‘ The greatness of your mind, should not  
 ‘ shrink under difficulties!—’

At this instant, his voice faltered;—he stopp-  
 ed speaking, and his eyes met mine—both were  
 filled with tears—I could speak no other lan-  
 guage, than those too expressive tears.

He

He silently, and tenderly kissed my hand, and instantly rushed out of the room.

My mother hearing him go hastily away, came directly to me :—she found me in a passion of grief, I could not restrain—she tenderly soothed my sorrows—sat with me till I went to bed; giving me some drops, to compose my frame.

About two hours after the family were at rest, we heard a dreadful noise, and were soon alarmed by the cry of fire !

I opened my eyes, and saw the flames bursting into my room !

I threw on a loose gown, and hastily ran to the window---I was trying to open it, with a design to fling myself out, when I found myself caught by somebody behind me, and hastily carried away.

I fainted in the arms of my supporter, without knowing who it was that saved my life.

How

How long I remained insensible, I know not ; but the first object that presented itself to my returning sight, was my beloved Mura : I looked with an anxious enquiring countenance, yet dared not enquire.

She, who had long been able to read my thoughts, said,

‘ Let us be thankful, my dear Agnes, no lives are lost !—all are happily, and wonderfully preserved !’

‘ Oh ! tell me,’ I cried, ‘ all you know of this sad disaster.’

‘ Where are my parents ? where am I ? how came I here ?’

‘ Your mother gave you a composing draught, as she dreaded the effects of your agitation in your weak state ;—this lulled your sorrows to rest ;—but poor Woodville’s kept him waking ; which has been the means of our preservation.’

‘ He and his friend were walking at midnight,  
‘ in the grove ; talking over the subject that  
‘ distressed his mind ; when they observed an  
‘ unusual light from your father’s house.

‘ They were soon convinced it was on fire,  
‘ and flew to assist ; but the flames had increased  
‘ so much, ere they reached it, that it was with  
‘ difficulty they could get to the chambers.

‘ The stranger brought out your mother ; and  
‘ Woodville rushed through the fire to save you.

‘ He overtook me, with you, seemingly dead  
‘ in his arms.

‘ He stopped my cries, by assuring me you  
‘ were in a swoon ; but as his house was too far  
‘ off, he proposed entering this house, which  
‘ we found empty ; for all the inhabitants had  
‘ left the neighbouring houses, fearing the fire  
‘ would extend to them ; and, such as were able,  
‘ were themselves employed in trying to extin-  
‘ guish the flames.

‘ When

‘ When Woodville saw your senses returning,  
‘ he told me he should leave you to my care, as  
‘ he might be of more use elsewhere.

‘ About an hour ago, I heard voices, and  
‘ people walking in the house ;—seeing a light  
‘ in the next room, I opened the door, and saw  
‘ Moina (Hubert’s sister) there ; she told me she  
‘ was coming to supply my place, and sit by you,  
‘ requesting I would go to her bed.

‘ I consented to half her desire, as I wished  
‘ to enquire into the particulars of the fire.

‘ I begged her to stay in the room with you,  
‘ and went myself into the hall, from whence  
‘ the voices came.

‘ There I found your Father, Woodville,  
‘ Ware, Hubert, and many others, all re-  
‘ joicing in the happy effects of Woodville’s late-  
‘ ly executed plan of conveying water ; which  
‘ had now been the means of putting out the fire,  
‘ before any considerable damage was done ;  
‘ whereas

‘ whereas formerly, one house was seldom left,  
‘ when once such a misfortune happened.

‘ They praised him for his active vigilance  
‘ and care in directing the men; so that only  
‘ three houses had suffered.

‘ I learned also, that your mother was safe at  
‘ her brother’s house, having only suffered from  
‘ terrors for you; and when she had been inform-  
‘ ed of your safety, consented to remain there.

‘ Hearing that every thing was far better than  
‘ I could have hoped, I returned to you, whose  
‘ reason I found was returning; therefore I in-  
‘ sisted on Moina’s leaving you to my care, as I  
‘ was unwilling she should be a witness to the  
‘ effusions of your heart—that heart which will,  
‘ I hope, now be easy.’

‘ Alas! my Mura,’ said I, ‘ ease will never  
‘ be my lot! but I must not repine:—God has  
‘ been very merciful to us—his will be done;  
‘ yet



' yet too true it is, painful days, and sleepless  
 ' nights, will be my fate for many a day, ere I  
 ' regain my lost tranquility; but my patient sub-  
 ' mission shall show, I can love and suffer much,  
 ' yet still love on.

' May my recompense be found in Wood-  
 ' ville's being happy! oh, may he never feel  
 ' my sorrows:

' Bless him, oh! thou Almighty Power, in  
 ' every wish his worthy heart can form!'

Oppressed with my grief and weakness, I fell  
 into a sound sleep—waked revived, and with a  
 cheerfulness I had not felt for some time; took  
 some refreshment, and rose, alas, to experience  
 fresh sorrows!

I saw all my friends, excepting him my heart  
 most wished to see.

Ah, I did not then know the extent of my  
 woe! him I must not see; for my evil destiny  
 had

had contrived, that the house he had carried me to, was Hubert's!—a single man—a rejected lover—I had stayed there all night!

Too soon I learned the horrors of my fate—this accident gave him a right to demand me in marriage:—he immediately claimed his right of my father.

My tender parents told me of this additional misfortune; adding, I knew the indispensable rules of our nation; gave me no other choice, but to wed Hubert, or to leave my father's house, and go into the class of 'useful employments,' within a fortnight; which time was allowed me, to make my option.

- 、 I hesitated not one moment which to fix upon!
- 、 Death would have been preferable to the marrying of any man but Woodville.

I went back to my parent's home, for the allotted time; but never was allowed to see the object my soul doted on.

He

He wrote to me every day ; not as a lover, but as a friend and brother.

His eloquence was prevalent ; he reasoned so justly, and yet so tenderly, that he inspired me with fortitude ; and I left my father's house, with more composure, than could be expected.

The branches of business I chose, (for all have power to chuse) were painting and embroidery.

These occupations amused my mind, and I by degrees regained my health.

Woodville was then permitted to visit me often ; for the rules of this class do not prohibit society ; they forbid a person from sleeping from home, but allow them to see their friends ; and permit them to marry, either one of the same class ; or if of a superior class, a person not less than thirty years old.

But then, the head of the class is to be consulted, instead of the maiden's father ; for the head is to be esteemed as the father, who loses all paternal

ternal right over his child, after entered the class of ‘ useful employments.’

My hours were less painful than I could have expected.

My love was not lessened; but time had taught me resignation; and by never allowing myself to be idle, I learned to bear my lot without murmuring.

When one dear blessed day, my beloved Woodville entered, with an unusual cheerfulness in his countenance.

He told me (oh! joyful sound! it still vibrates on my ear) ‘ that the head of that class ‘ had gratified his ardent desire; and that he ‘ hoped, I would not be against his being happy!’

‘ I against it! said I; ‘ no! surely your happiness is the first wish of my heart.

‘ If you are going to marry, may the happy ‘ maiden love you as I have done; if she can  
‘ do

‘ do it farther, I am still ignorant of the power of  
 ‘ love.

‘ Long as I have been its votary, my comfort,  
 ‘ in all my sorrows, has been, that I have not  
 ‘ hurt your glory.

‘ Shall I now wish to hinder your happiness?

‘ Ah! Agnes’ said the dear youth, ‘ have  
 ‘ you so little penetration, as to think my peace  
 ‘ of mind can be restored, by a union with any  
 ‘ other woman but yourself? nay, even with  
 ‘ you, can I hope it will be perfect; for do I  
 ‘ not labour under misfortunes, which, not all  
 ‘ the honors this dear country have loaded me  
 ‘ with, can efface? nay, shall I not add to  
 ‘ them?

‘ I have robbed my own father of his eldest  
 ‘ son; and shall rob your’s of his only child;  
 ‘ for surely, when you so generously wished hap-  
 ‘ piness to the wife I chose, you did not recollect,  
 ‘ you must be that wife!

May

‘ May those wishes light on your own dear  
‘ head ! for you, Agnes ! are the only woman  
‘ shall tempt me to unite in a foreign land.

‘ Yet I tremble for the event ; as I fear the  
‘ conditions of our union, may wound your  
‘ peace of mind : but I love truth, as much as  
‘ I do my Agnes.

‘ I must not therefore deceive you !

‘ Ware sets out in three days, to endeavour  
‘ to regain Europe !—If he is happy enough to  
‘ succeed, he sends a ship for me.

‘ Now, Agnes, decide my fate ; weigh well  
‘ your own determination ! can your affection  
‘ for me, be great enough to compensate for the  
‘ quitting your parents, your friends, and your  
‘ country ! and reconcile you to many hardships,  
‘ it may be, even my tenderness cannot shield  
‘ you from, ere we reach my native land ?

‘ Consider

‘ Consider the subject thoroughly, and forgive  
‘ the presumption that arises from my sincerity,  
‘ in proposing conditions to the beloved of my  
‘ soul !’

‘ Oh ! my heart’s best treasure ! it requires  
‘ no time to consider and weigh the matter !

‘ I am willing to be your wife, to share with  
‘ you every danger, and difficulty ! you are  
‘ parents, friends, and country to me !—but  
‘ is it possible, that you, who are now arrived  
‘ to the dignity of an honorable of sixty years,  
‘ can condescend to take me, degraded as I am !  
‘ no longer to be considered as the daughter of  
‘ an honorable, but as one of the class, so much  
‘ beneath their honors ?’

‘ Call not yourself by so undeserved an epithet !  
‘ say exalted, not degraded !

‘ The nobleness of your choice did, indeed,  
‘ exalt you in my estimation ; highly as I be-  
‘ fore thought of your merits.’

But it would be as vain for me to attempt to repeat one half of the kind, the tender things he said, as to endeavour to recite half his virtues.

He told me, that though our rule dispensed with the natural parents consent, to marry a maiden in my present situation; yet, as with submission to our laws, he thought nothing ought to deprive the parent of his power over his child; he had previously consulted my father and mother, and gained their approbation, before he addressed the head of the class, for leave to marry me.

He also informed me, that he feared he should not be able to see me the two following days, as they must be given up to his friend, in order to fit him out as well as possible, for so desperate a journey, as made him shudder for him, as well as for himself; since, upon Ware's success depended his future hope of returning to England.



At the expiration of that time, he came to me, told me his friend was gone, and all things getting ready for our nuptials.

The necessary preparations completed, my lover, and the head of the class, summoned me to church.

The golden chain encircled us amidst our surrounding friends; amongst which, my parents were not the least joyful.

The ceremony over—I was led,—oh! joyful moments! to my husband's house! and received the congratulations of every person, with a heart-fully at ease.

Here I lived the happiest of women; for to complete my felicity, Hubert had withdrawn his affections from me, and placed them, where they were most acceptable, and most deserved.

On

On the friend of my heart, my dear Mura ; who had long secretly loved him, concealing her attachment even from me, till I had made my choice, and by quitting my father's house, plainly evinced, I never would be the wife of Hubert !

The week after the birth of my little Charles, the most honorable, the good Emargon, died—full of years and honors.

The voices that were to elect his successor, were unanimous to place my Woodville in the vacant seat.

He received the account with gratitude ; but declined the intended honor ; proving to the ancients and the fires, the impropriety of giving the most honorable place to a stranger ; to one too, who must confess, he would, when ever opportunity offered, return to his native land.

Though

Though whilst he staid, and to his life's end, he would make it his study to deserve the many favors they had shewn him.

His all persuasive eloquence prevailed, greatly as they wished otherwise.

They then proceeded to a new election ; and with one consenting voice, chose my father ; not only, they said, on account of his own merit, but as he had been the ultimate cause of the benefits they had received from Woodville, by the preservation of him ; and as he was now so closely connected with him, their beloved benefactor.

Shouts of joy proclaimed their choice ; and with the customary forms, my father was invested with the most honorable's authority.

Our happiness hourly increased ; a second boy was added to our blessings,——but alas ! human joys are not permanent !

A sickness,

A sickness, often fatal to infants, snatched away both our babes, in three months time, and I should have nearly sunk under my grief, but for the necessity I was under, to rouse myself, in order to keep up my dear husband's spirits; who grew pensive and almost melancholy; often telling me, ' he looked upon himself, as the primary cause of our misfortune.

' Believing, that Divine goodness had bereaved him of his children, in order to impress him more strongly with a sense of his own crime, in forsaking a father, who might, perhaps, now want his filial tenderness, to soothe his cares, in a country, in which, it is true, there was more improved knowledge, than in our's; yet, as he must own, there was much more vice; so he proved, there were also many more afflictions.'

My utmost endeavours were used to banish such cruel thoughts, and revive his spirits: that amiable temper, which delighted to make others happy,

happy, made him exert his own efforts, that my assiduity might be successful ; and, at length, I had the happiness of seeing his natural vivacity return.

One morning my father sent for him ; in the evening when he returned, I observed a cheerfulness in his looks, that told me some event joyous to him had happened ; and I soon caught the liveliness, his eyes expressed ; as my heart was ever in unison with his.

He tenderly embraced me, saying, ‘ Oh ! my Agnes, you should love me less ; or the torrent of felicity that daily pours upon me, will overwhelm me, and make me forget that I am mortal !

‘ But I fear, I shall check the sympathizing joy that has lighted up your features, with still more than usual brightness, when I tell you, the source of my present satisfaction arises  
L from

‘ from the prospect of returning home to my native land !

‘ Letters are arrived from Ware, informing  
‘ the most honorable, which he supposes to be  
‘ Emargon still, that he has been happy enough  
‘ to reap the good effects of civilizing barbarians,  
‘ and converting enemies into friends.

‘ Our letters of recommendation, conducted  
‘ him safely to the nation nearest Youngland.

‘ Their chief recommended him to the next ;  
‘ and so he was passed on for eight hundred miles,  
‘ meeting with every kindness which humanity  
‘ could shew, or his situation require.

‘ At the end of this journey he met with a  
‘ vessel, which carried him safe to an English  
‘ settlement ; from whence he could, with ease,  
‘ proceed to England, with every reasonable assurance  
‘ of a prosperous voyage.

‘ He

‘ He adds, at the end of which, he should endeavour to turn to the best advantage for me, the treasures he had been trusted with.

‘ I did not understand the meaning of this sentence ; well knowing, that all he had received from me, were some presents to himself, which I had added to the splendid ones which had been given to him by the most honorable, and honorables : but that my obligations to this generous nation may be hourly increasing, I soon learned, that Emargon, your father, and many others, had found means, by sending a vessel round the coast, to meet Ware, at the ship side ; and that this vessel had been stored with ingots of pure gold, diamonds, and most precious gems ; with orders to dispose of them in the manner most likely to turn out for my benefit, in case I ever reached home ; allowing him to reserve the fourth part to himself ; and desiring him, if my father was living, to give the remainder to him, for my use, if I ever returned home.

‘ Thus, you see, my dearest treasure, the  
‘ bounty of our friends will make us rich in my  
‘ native country.

‘ But now, my dear Agnes, comes the trial  
‘ of your love, and of your courage !

‘ In ten months Ware hopes I shall find a  
‘ ship, at a particular river he has named ; which  
‘ will be sent on purpose to convey me from  
‘ hence—inay I flatter myself, you can cheer-  
‘ fully accompany me ?’

‘ May you ! how can you wound me by im-  
‘ plying a doubt ? are we not linked for life ?  
‘ shall I not partake of whatever heaven allots to  
‘ you ?—let me still be dear to you, and do not  
‘ forsake me, or deprive me of that affection  
‘ which makes my life a blessing ; and then, be  
‘ assured, I shall find nothing a hardship in your  
‘ loved society.’

He pressed me to his heart in transport, say-  
ing.

‘ Thou



‘ Thou art the only treasure I shall wish to  
 ‘ carry away ; all others are but as a feather,  
 ‘ compared with thee !’

As soon as I had recovered the birth of that  
 sweet babe, who has been the companion of our  
 journey, we began to prepare for our departure

Soon after the time our friend had fixed,  
 we received intelligence, that the ship was arrived.

Woodville called all his dependants—told them  
 the time he intended to remove, and offered them  
 any service in his power with the honorables, as  
 a reward for their fidelity.

Two young women, two men, and two boys,  
 requested to accompany us ; and live or die with  
 us.

Woodville told them, they must first obtain  
 their

their parents, and the most honorable's consent.

This was readily granted :—the whole nation would have been trusted to his care, could they have been removed.

The last day we went to our church, we found, on the outside of the repository, assigned to Woodville's trophies, the following inscription.

‘ To-morrow, being the third of the fourth  
‘ month, in the six hundred and fourth spring of  
‘ this settlement, we are to be deprived of Wood-  
‘ ville, the eldest young man we ever saw ; and  
‘ the greatest benefactor to our nation, as well as  
‘ the very best man it has ever known.

‘ He was truth itself ! a falsehood never issued  
‘ from his lips ; nor was a deceit ever practised  
‘ by him.

He was wise without vanity ; brave without  
 rashness ; compassionate without weakness ; had  
 dignity without pride ; and his delight has  
 been to do good to all, though his modesty  
 would not let him take all the honorable rewards  
 that he so well deserved.

His manners adorn virtue in himself ; and  
 his example teaches it to others.

Filial tenderneſs, that moſt valuable of all  
 the affections of the human mind, has ſhewn  
 itſelf predominant in him——it has prevailed  
 over intereſt, ambition, and all that could  
 charm, or entice a mortal ; and it has obliged  
 him to return home, to receive a father's bleſ-  
 ſing ! but, alas ! it robs Youngland of their  
 god-like benefactor.

When far diſtant, he will ſtill remain in  
 their hearts—his praiſes will flow from their  
 lips ; and their prayers ſhall be offered to Hea-  
 ven for his ſafety.

This

‘ This writing !—an art he himself taught first  
‘ —shall transmit to future generations, an ac-  
‘ count of the blessings he procured to Young-  
‘ land.’

‘ Then followed the list of all the benefits he had  
conferred on the country.

My modest Woodville will not let me enu-  
merate these benefits ; they are more than can be  
conceived.

After Woodville had, with tears in his eyes,  
perused this writing, he turned to his surround-  
ing friends—thanked them for all their generous  
goodness to him ; assured them, their welfare,  
and the prosperity of their nation, should ever be  
an object to him, however distant he might be ;  
and, as a proof of it, if he ever obtained any in-  
fluence in his own country, he would exert it,  
to send them such a holy man, as their painting  
delineated (with several copies of that sacred booc

called the bible) to instruct them in the rites of Christianity.

They already practised the dictates of the Christian Religion ; and till that clergyman arrived amongst them, the best advice he could give them, was to adhere strictly to their own rules, as those rules taught every virtue which could adorn human nature !

After more discourse, and the usual repetition of the Lord's prayer, creed, and ten commandments, the people sung a hymn, made for the occasion, expressive of their earnest wishes for his happiness and safety.

He had been apprised of this intention, and had been prepared to return it ; having composed a hymn, in which myself, and twelve more he had selected, were to join him.

This hymn, which repeated his gratitude, and prayed for blessings on this nation, was thought

the finest piece of music which had ever been heard there ; where he himself (who has the most harmonious voice that ever sung) thought the music was superior to any he had ever heard in England.

Happy shall I be, if ever it is allowed me, to sing this hymn to his father !

My parents were not able to see us the last day ; but shut themselves up, and prayed for blessings on their children.

However, they shewed so much fortitude, as not to utter a wish to detain us.

I requested the friend of my heart—my dear Mura, to follow their example, and avoid the agonizing farewell ! for I dreaded every thing that could enervate me, and of course render me less able to encounter the painful moment of my departure !

Indeed,

Indeed, I found occasion for my utmost resolution to support my own spirits, that I might not depress my beloved's; whose tender heart felt for me, as well as for his own leaving, for ever, a country he had so many reasons to love!

Hubert, and many other friends, accompanied us to the water side.

Every thing had been planned with so much care, and every plan was so well executed, that our land journey was performed in eight days, with very little fatigue, and without distress or danger.

Our ship was then loaded with immense treasures, as this country calls them.

The kind solicitude of my husband (lover I may still call him, for such he has continued, ever since I have been his happy wife) so alleviated every anxiety, and increased every comfort, that the voyage proved only a pleasant expedition;  
and

and the care of my sweet child, and writing these memoirs, so filled up my time, that I had no wish for society in those hours my Woodville could not devote to me !

We were met, at the first English settlement by Mr. John Ware, (a brother of our friend's, who lives abroad ; he had taken charge of disposing of part of the gold and jewels Mr. Christopher Ware had brought from my dear father, and the honorables, for our use ; as it was thought most prudent to convert them into the species of this country, in different places.)

This gentleman staid with us there for one month, and then accompanied us to Amsterdam ; where we were to meet his brother, and settle our affairs.

We learned, by Mr. John Ware's account, that what had been already brought from Youngland, produced an immense property in England : a circumstance I heard with pleasure (though not  
grown



grown more avaricious) as I had already seen enough to make me think, that in the mother country (as my beloved always calls it) wealth was in as great estimation as virtue ! or, at least, that virtue without riches, would be but little esteemed !

I could not help saying to myself—I knew a more happy country, where merit alone was valued ; and where an additional feather, acquired by noble actions, would render the wearer more honoured, than all the gems and gold in the world ; as those might be gained by a thousand accidents, in which the merit of the owner was not concerned ; but the honorable feather must be obtained by real desert.

A sigh, and a tender tear, accompanied this mental reflection ; but the seeing Woodville approach, made me suppress every painful idea.

His loved presence can, at any time, dissipate concern that I would carefully hide from him ;

him ; lest he should suppose I repented the having left my country, and my friends !——a supposition his tenderness would be alarmed at, but I can most truly say, it would be groundless : ——in him, and my beloved child, are centered all my ideas of happiness.

Next week, it was intended, we should proceed on our journey to England—but, alas, I find my journies in this world are over !

I am seized with an illness, they call the small pox, and am convinced it will prove fatal !

I resign my life with gratitude, for the many blessings I have enjoyed, into the hands of him who gave it !

My conscience tells me, I have lived innocently, and I hope to die happy.

I am

I am satisfied in the belief, my dear infant will be taken true care of, by the tenderest of fathers—he will love her for my sake!

I wished to have seen his father, but the Almighty's will be done!

May the Power above protect, and shield from every ill, the most worthy of mankind!

May he meet with every blessing in his own country, that can atone for those he has left; and lessen that sorrow I am certain he will feel on my account!

I hope to live long enough to deliver these papers into the hands of Mr. Christopher Ware, who is hourly expected from London; as I well know the modesty of my amiable husband, would suppress an account which does so much credit to himself.

I wish

I wish his nearest friends should see it; and I request of them to believe, I honor truth too much, to insert one falsity!

CONCLUSION OF MRS. MANDEVILLE'S ME-  
MOIRS.

To

TO MR. HERBERT.

THE immense packets that have been transmitted to you, by Colonel Belville's pen, have permitted mine to sleep in peace.

Indeed I think you would have been vexed, with any interruption, in the perusal of such interesting papers.

I almost wish I had never read them, for I cannot help lamenting, that the amiable writer of them, was not herself the bearer to us!—and, highly as I esteem Emily, I think she will have a of a man who has been ~~to~~ <sup>appear</sup> to advantage, as the wife ~~of a man who has been~~ with an Agnes.

Her

Her character seems to me, to be as perfect in its way, as his; and we all shed tears, when we perused her affecting close of her memoirs.

Emily wept, very sincerely, I dare say; yet I could not help thinking, she would have shed more painful tears, had the sweet Agnes still been living.

My time has been, as usual, employed in trying to cheer the sinking spirits of my friends.

The thoughts of the approaching trials, opened every wound afresh! It has called Lord Belmont, and Colonel Mandeville away.

They departed with heavy hearts leaving us to the care of Mr. Mandeville; who has endeavoured, by every tender assiduity, to banish mournful reflections from <sup>her</sup> more comfort from his and in company, than I thought she would ever know again.

Her

Her fondness for him daily increases ; nor can one be surprized at it, as each day he discovers some new art of pleasing.

Sure no one man was ever endued with so many powers to delight every age and sex ! I am sometimes out of humour, that I cannot discover one fault, to bring him more upon the level with ourselves ; his voice is melody itself.

Well might poor Agnes say, it exceeded all she had ever heard ; I was told in Italy, I had been entertained by the finest voices in the world ; but I am convinced they were mistaken ; they had never heard Mr. Mandeville's !—his solemn hymns, make you believe you are listening to more than mortal sounds, his cheerful songs animate your whole soul, and leave you not a thought or idea that is not joyous !

I learn this day, from the happy Emily, that he has gained her permission, when his father and my lord return, to ask their consent to her becoming his bride.

I think

I think it will be joyfully given, and then our story will be properly wound up; the gay widow will soon be converted into the sober wife; the blushing maiden, into the prudent matron; and as my vein for letter writing is worn out, I can the easier condescend to the dull narration of domestic scenes; which, though they may be very delightful in the acting, make but an insipid figure in the recital.

I trust we shall have no more mad rencounters, to create tragic subjects for my pen: but be content to admire the mercy of Providence, who has thus healed the sorrows of a worthy family, by restoring its lost branches! adorned with every fruit that can make it valuable!

The great bell announces visitors, so for the present. Adieu!

(IN CONTINUATION.)

Last Thursday Lord Belmont, and the Colonel  
returned :



returned : their countenances betrayed the dejection of their hearts.

Lord Melvin was acquitted, as every body knew he must be ; my Lord dwelled no longer on the painful subject, than to do justice to the manly tendernefs, and deep concern, Lord Melvin expressed on the sad occasion.

Mr. Mandeville led the discourse into topics, less painfully interesting to the company.

After tea, he requested his father to walk with him : Emily's blushes were tell tales, that she knew the subject he meant to discuss.

Colonel Mandeville has enabled me to give you the particulars of their conversation.

The Colonel, on hearing his son's wishes, said, ' I am not surprized ; as I thought, I pretty early discovered your partiality for Miss Howard :'

‘ard : which gave me great pleasure, as I know  
 ‘her to be a truly amiable girl.’

‘Oh ! sir, you might indeed see it, on the  
 ‘first of my acquaintance with her ; nay, on my  
 ‘first sight of her, had you been present ; for  
 ‘never were two sisters more like each other,  
 ‘than Miss Howard is, to my dear Angel !

‘This strong resemblance led me to observe  
 ‘her character and disposition ; the more I stu-  
 ‘died them, the likeness strengthened ; the same  
 ‘modest diffidence, the same sweet feminine  
 ‘softness, that my beloved Agnes possessed, ap-  
 ‘pear in all Miss Howard says or does ; they seem  
 ‘to be reuniting to the woman I adored ;—  
 ‘and in her, I hope to find a second fond mo-  
 ‘ther for my dear girl !

‘I hope, sir, you have formed no views for  
 ‘me, that this attachment interferes with.’

‘From me, child, you shall never meet with  
 ‘any

‘ any obstruction to your wishes ;—I hope it will  
‘ also receive my Lord’s approbation—but of this  
‘ I am not so certain.’

‘ Why, sir, I am not conscious of any ground  
‘ for objection to my proposal.’

‘ Lord Belmont, my dear Charles, is a man  
‘ of nice honor—perhaps, too punctilious in  
‘ some matters ; and, though I really think that  
‘ every action of your life, does credit to you ;  
‘ he, perhaps, may see in a different light, your  
‘ early elopement, and the state of dependence  
‘ you were once in.’

‘ I have not sullied my honor, and, therefore,  
‘ do not expect contempt from any man ; espe-  
‘ cially from a man of my Lord’s good sense.

‘ If I find it, I can only say, I had rather be  
‘ again the menial dependent I once was, than  
‘ be his lordship ; for till I can be convinced a  
‘ coronet adds worth to the heart of its wearer,  
‘ I can

‘ I can only consider it as the ornament of the  
‘ head.’

‘ I hope, my dear Charles, you judge more  
‘ truly of him, in this matter, than I do—I  
‘ thought it proper to guard you against a dis-  
‘ appointment that might lead you into improper  
‘ warmth ; all men have some shade in their cha-  
‘ racters ; this is the only one in his ; and it  
‘ cannot overcast the bright sunshine of virtues  
‘ that illuminate his mind.

‘ As to myself, I am much pleased with your  
‘ choice ; but had I not been so, I would not  
‘ have thwarted your inclinations ; let me once  
‘ be blessed with a boy of your’s, and I shall for-  
‘ get my past sufferings ; they have been so great  
‘ since my poor Harry’s untimely end, that I  
‘ think I could not long have supported myself  
‘ under them, had not the unexpected blessing I  
‘ now enjoy, cheered my sad heart !’

Mr. Mandeville, willing to give his thoughts  
another

another subject, took a paper out of his pocket book ; presenting it to his father, saying, ‘ you told me, sir, I need not fear having more riches than I could spend, in this country ; be so kind to peruse this schedule of my fortune, and you will find it too much for any man !’

‘ The Colonel read, ‘ received, from Mr. Ware seventy thousand pounds, the first payment ; the second, thirty thousand ; the third, for jewels and ingots of gold, brought by himself, and disposed of by Mr. Christopher Ware, fifty thousand ; the produce of the newly arrived ships, two hundred thousand pounds ; seventy thousand laid out in land, by Mr. John Ware, before Mr. Mandeville arrived.’

The Colonel then turned the paper, and continued reading a plan Mr. Mandeville had laid down, for the disposal of his fortune.

His son repeated, ‘ I think sir, you will ac-  
M ‘ knowledge

‘ knowledge this is too much wealth for any man  
‘ to possess.’

‘ For any man but you, I should think it was ;  
‘ but this scheme for your future conduct, shews  
‘ me you will confer credit on your riches ; in-  
‘ stead of deriving it from them !

‘ May God bless you, with comforts in pro-  
‘ portion to your benevolent intentions.’

‘ You will perceive, sir, that my plan extends  
‘ to but one half of my possessions ; the other  
‘ half, I consider as your property, not mine ;  
‘ and devote it entirely to your disposal.

‘ If you find it more than your inclination al-  
‘ lows you to spend upon your own occasions,  
‘ your better judgment, and greater knowledge  
‘ of this country, will enable you to find out  
‘ worthy subjects to bestow it on ; to raise de-  
‘ pressed and suffering virtue, will make it turn  
‘ to a solid advantage.

‘ Of

‘ Of the share I have reserved to myself, I  
 ‘ should be sorry not to dedicate a large portion  
 ‘ to these purposes.

‘ I shall still have enough left, to gratify all  
 ‘ my desires :—the pomp and shew of wealth,  
 ‘ cannot, in my opinion, increase the happiness  
 ‘ of its owner.’

With eyes and heart overflowing with grateful  
 joy, the Colonel embraced his excellent son : ex-  
 claiming,

‘ Oh ! it is too, too much, my child, for an  
 ‘ old man to support such a tide of joy, as you  
 ‘ pour in upon me !’

After some more discourse, they separated,—  
 each of them delighted ! the son, that he had  
 been happy enough to revive his drooping fa-  
 ther,—the father, that he was blessed with such a  
 son.

When they returned to the company, their countenances were animated by these pleasing sensations.

This morning a messenger has arrived from Lady Mary, just as Mr. Mandeville had enquired of me, if Lord Belmont was gone to his library, as he wished to find him alone ; and a servant had informed Mr. Mandeville, Lord Belmont requested to speak with him.

I confess myself apprehensive, there may be some scheme in agitation between my Lord and his sister, that may interfere with the Honorable's wishes.

When amongst ourselves, we frequently call him by his foreign appellation ; but he prefers, he says, the name ever dear to him ; though so long laid aside ; but now reassumed, with sincere and grateful joy.

Lady Belmont has just left me ; and given me leave to transmit to you the particulars of  
the



the library conversation, which she had learned from his Lordship.

I am so tired of ‘ he said,’ and Mr. Mandeville replied, that though I am not going to write a farce, yet I will put it into *dramatis personæ*.

Lord Belmont.—I wanted, Mr. Mandeville, to inform you of my wishes, that you would accompany me, to wait upon my sister Lady Mary.

I am anxious to introduce you to her ; but a letter this morning, tells me, she proposes coming hither to-morrow, to congratulate us all on your return :—a return, so happy for each, but most peculiarly so to me ; who am now no longer at a loss for an heir to my fortune and my honors ; they will devolve on you, and I rejoice they will be possessed by a man every way worthy of them !

Mr.

Mr. Mandeville.—Forgive me, my Lord, if I am incapable of expressing my sentiments of gratitude, as I ought to do; I feel, at this moment, the misfortune of my education; but my actions, I hope, will do more credit to my feelings than my language can.

The chief merit that I boast, is a sincerity which, whether nature gave me or not, must have been acquired, in a country, where it is considered as the first of virtues! your Lordship's kindness makes me hope, I shall be forgiven a request, I intended to make to you to day; a request which that same sincerity makes it improper, in my opinion, to conceal any longer.

Lord Belmont.—Speak it freely; I think I can safely promise; you can ask nothing of me, I shall be unwilling to comply with.

Mr. Mandeville.—Thus emboldened by your goodness, may I hope for your permission, to address Miss Howard?—I freely acknowledge  
to

to your Lordship, without an union with her, neither wealth or titles can make me happy.

Lord Belmont.—Honestly spoke my dear Charles, oh ! had your poor brother been equally open, in divulging his wishes, we might all have been happy ! but God's will be done ! I was myself to blame !—However, it is vain to reflect on what is past ! we must endeavour, by submission to the decrees of Providence, to atone for our errors : remembering, that if we were never to meet with adversity, we should be too apt to forget our abode in this world, is only designed as preparatory to a better.

My Lord then proposed acquainting Lady Belmont with the subject they were upon ; adding, I fancy you want no advocate in Emily's heart ; but if you should, I am mistaken if her Ladyship does not prove a willing one.

Mr. Mandeville said, you will be so kind, as  
to

to let my father know, your wishes about settlement.

Lord Belmont.—I will talk them over with you ; for on this occasion I must represent your father ; he cannot spare a great deal, and shall not lessen his income ; mine is sufficient to allow me to divide part with you.

Mr. Mandeville.—Your Lordship greatly mistakes my meaning ; surely you cannot think I want to rob my father of any part of his fortune ! in any case I should blush to think of it.—In the present, any addition to mine, would be absolutely unnecessary ; you do not perhaps guess my fortune to be so large as it is.

Lord Belmont.—I never heard what it was, but I suppose you to have thirty or forty Thousand Pounds ; as I heard there was a large property lately arrived for your use.

Mr. Mandeville.—I have not the particulars of  
of

of my fortune about me ; I gave them last night to my father ; when your Lordship peruses them, you will see that sum is but a small part of the wealth Heaven has bestowed upon me.—I want no addition to it ; I would have an ample provision made for my dear child ; and the rest, properly settled on Miss Howard and her children.

Lord Belmont.—Emily must not be unportioned ; it would be ungenerous in me to permit it ; however, I will talk this matter over with the Colonel.

They went together to Lady Belmont's dressing room.

She confessed to me, delighted as she was by their intelligence ; she felt the tears ready to flow, on the recollection of that union which had been once so near ; and was so fatally prevented ! but like poor Aurelia :

She ‘ sacrificed to Heaven’s high will,  
‘ Each soothing weakness of a parent’s breast ;  
‘ The sigh soft memory prompts: the tender tear,  
‘ That streaming o’er an object lov’d and lost,  
‘ With mournful magic, tortures and delights.’

and with a sweet graciousness, which gilds every act of her’s, she desired to be herself the messenger to Emily, of tidings she believed would give her pleasure.

The gentlemen walked out to meet Colonel Mandeville, whom they saw in the park.

The Colonel received my Lord’s acquiescence to his son’s desire, with unfeigned joy..

Mr. Mandeville left them to settle preliminaries, and flew to assure his beloved, his future life should be devoted to her happiness.

I soon after joined the happy pair ; whom I  
found

found indulging their dear little girl ; whom Mr. Mandeville was teaching to call Miss Howard her mama.

I could not help remarking he sighed, when he pronounced the tender appellation ; and I hope Emily is too just, to repine at this proof, that even his attachment to her, cannot wholly obliterate the remembrance of his dear Agnes.

We all met at dinner, with countenances enlightened by joy ; even poor Lady Belmont was enlivened, by the unusual cheerfulness that exhilarated Mr. Mandeville's spirits, to an uncommon flow of vivacity.

His conversation is always entertaining :—but then, it was entertainment, unalloyed by one painful idea.

He and Emily walked out with the lovely little child, when she had partaken of the desert, and we all joined in praising him, in whose character  
the

the son, the parent, friend and lover, appear in their most amiable light.

To-morrow we are to be all formality ; Lady Mary is a good woman ; but her breeding is that of Queen Ann's Court ; and little suits the *sans ceremonious* manners of,

Dear Sir,

Your obedient humble servant,

ANNE WILMOTT.

To



## TO MR. HERBERT.

I FORETOLD that Lady Mary's civility would embarrass us; but I could not foresee her Ladyship would have been so very absurd as she has, begging her pardon, shewn herself; but, thank kind fortune, she is gone—she stayed but two days.

She was disgusted to see the family, what she called, insensible of their late loss—she took every possible opportunity of reminding them of it.

She behaved with a formal distant civility to Mr. Mandeville, but seemed to consider him as an usurper of her darling Harry's place; and, once, pretty plainly hinted, she thought there was not sufficient proof of his identity.

He

He had, however, the good sense not to seem to see her Ladyship's coldness to him; and, by his address and insinuating sweetness, without descending to servility, he so far won her Ladyship's good opinion, that she vouchsafed to say, she began to believe he really was Colonel Mandeville's son; for, he certainly was very like the Colonel's wife; who, by the way, Lady Belmont informs me, never was a favorite with Lady Mary, though a most amiable woman.

To me she openly avowed the horror she felt at seeing such cheerful faces in deep mourning; ---it appeared to her, a slight to the memories of Lady Julia, and her admired Harry.

I assured her Ladyship, if she would attend more closely to the sensations of her friends, and not judge by outward appearances, she would see that every heart still felt deeply for their loss; though they thought it ungrateful to Providence, not to receive with gratitude the  
blessings

blessings which had been so mercifully bestowed upon them !

All my rhetoric was lost upon her ; and, with real joy, I heard her declare her intention of returning home ; however, she conquered herself so far, as to wish Emily and Mr. Mandeville much happiness ; and gave them a civil, though not warm, invitation to Firr Grove.

#### IN CONTINUATION.

I have, this day, a letter to inform me, Lord Melvin and my niece are united, and are gone to London—I shall soon follow—settlements are drawing for Mr. Mandeville and Emily.

It is determined, that the wedding shall be private—any pompous bustle would inspire us with melancholy ideas ; which, though they might please Lady Mary, would, in my opinion, be unsuitable to the occasion.

To-morrow

To-morrow the child is to be baptised, at my Lord's request—it was deferred till his return from the trial.

We are returned from church.

The sweet infant was led into church by her father, in her usual dress, only her black ornaments were exchanged for white ones, of the same form.

Mr. Mandeville presented her to Lady Belmont, when the ceremony began.

When the clergyman took the poor child, she looked frightened, and turned pale.

When Lady Belmont was asked her name, her Ladyship, with great fortitude, pronounced, 'Agnes—' Julia—'

The last word, to be sure, trembled on her lips, and was spoken rather lower than the first.

When

When the dear little angel felt the water, she burst into tears, and held out her pretty arms to her father, as if to save her.

After the ceremony was performed, he took her in his arms, and soon hushed her terrors, by pressing her to his bosom ; and never did I see paternal affection look so lovely, as in his delighted countenance !

The smiles of innocence, and the natural roses, soon returned to the little charmer.

Mr. Ware spent the day with us ; and rejoiced to hear the little Agnes was soon to be blessed with a tender mother's care.

After dinner, when Mr. Mandeville, Emily, and the new made Christian were taking their usual walk, we told Mr. Ware how greatly we had been entertained, and affected, by Mrs. Mandeville's history.

He

He assured us, that it could give us but a faint idea of her worth—her modesty would not permit her to do herself justice ;—he added,

‘ I arrived at Amsterdam, a few days before  
‘ her death.

‘ I found my friend absorbed with grief, as  
‘ he plainly saw her situation.

‘ She requested some conversation with me—  
‘ her senses being quite perfect.

‘ She began, by intreating I would be her  
‘ husband’s comforter ; said, she was perfectly  
‘ sensible of her situation ; that as she had been  
‘ the happiest of women—the most beloved of  
‘ wives, I must believe it was painful to be thus  
‘ early taken from all her soul held dear ; but,  
‘ raising her voice, she said—

‘ I must die some time !—that is the fittest  
‘ time, that God appoints !—he will protect my  
‘ child,

‘ child, and reward my husband for all his goodness.’

‘ Take these papers, said she; deliver them to his best friends; they will but faintly speak his merits; but, I trust, there will be seen sufficient to justify me, for leaving all that a woman holds dear, to unite with such tenderness, truth and goodness, as will be found in his character.

‘ I am happy in the belief he will be a tender father to my dear infant.

‘ I have no fears but for him!—oh! endeavour to mitigate his sorrows!—conduct him to his father, for I trust he has one still living; and advise my beloved to supply my place;—oh! may he find a heart that will love him as sincerely as mine has done!’

‘ Her dejected husband entering, she said no more to me, but held out her burning hand to him.

‘ He

‘ He pressed it, with sighs, to his heaving  
‘ bosom ; then, with a weak voice, she said—

‘ Be comforted, my love ! listen to your  
‘ friend’s advice ; we must submit to the will of  
‘ Heaven.’

‘ I left them, for a few minutes, to regain  
‘ composure to fulfil my duty to my friend.

‘ After this, she spoke but seldom ; and the  
‘ next day she grew delirious, and expired the  
‘ following morning.

‘ I cannot—I wish not to paint Mandeville’s  
‘ deep affliction—there was a serenity in his  
‘ grief that shocked me !—sorrow is more alarm-  
‘ ing when it is silent and calm.

‘ He told me, he purposed to return to  
‘ Youngland.

‘ I did not think it proper, at first, to seem to  
‘ oppose his own plans ; but hinted, in subse-  
‘ quent



‘quent conversations, that I feared it might ha-  
 ‘zard the child’s life, to take such a voyage,  
 ‘and so long a journey, without a mother’s ten-  
 ‘der care; besides, I thought he would reflect  
 ‘on himself, in a calmer hour, for not having  
 ‘fought for his father.

‘With that candour he so thoroughly pos-  
 ‘sessed, he thanked me, for reminding him of  
 ‘his duty, both to his parent, and his child;  
 ‘and, indeed, to his departed angel, who had  
 ‘strongly urged him to pursue his original inten-  
 ‘tions.

‘He said, he was ashamed of his pusillanimity  
 ‘that made him shrink from duties so impor-  
 ‘tant---called me his true friend, for teaching  
 ‘his wayward will the right path; but I cannot  
 ‘leave this place yet, said he, I cannot shew my-  
 ‘self to my father, and my friends, in the irra-  
 ‘tional state of mind I am now in---I had need  
 ‘of my most perfect understanding to regain  
 ‘my father’s affection!

‘ I told

‘ I told him, I had so much business to trans-  
‘ act with my brother, on his account, as well  
‘ as my own, that I should necessarily be detain-  
‘ ed some weeks at Amsterdam; when that was  
‘ over, I would leave it to him, to fix the time  
‘ of our removal.

‘ All the hours I could spare from this business,  
‘ I devoted to consoling Mr. Mandeville; some-  
‘ times I read to him, sometimes I talked to him,  
‘ of the affairs that detained me.

‘ When he was able to go out,—for his health  
‘ was for some time greatly injured by the shock  
‘ he had sustained, the going to an English  
‘ church, seemed to afford the greatest consol-  
‘ ation.

‘ As the fondling his child yielded his only  
‘ amusement, by degrees, he became able to  
‘ read; and then applied so closely to his books,  
‘ that I feared it would be prejudicial to his  
‘ health and spirits; however, I had the plea-  
‘ sure

‘ sure to see his appetite mend ; and his peace  
 ‘ of mind in some degree recover.

‘ After about two months residence at Amster-  
 ‘ dam, we arrived in London.

‘ I immediately brought him to Meadow-house,  
 ‘ thinking country air better for his health ;  
 ‘ and knowing retirement was better suited to  
 ‘ his spirits, than the bustle of the metropolis.

‘ In the mean time, I made it my business to  
 ‘ search for his father ; I learned he was living,  
 ‘ but in heavy affliction for the loss of his son ;  
 ‘ fit time thought I, to comfort him with another  
 ‘ son ; but upon mature deliberation, I con-  
 ‘ sidered it better, to let my friend’s spirits and  
 ‘ health be more firmly established, before I in-  
 ‘ troduced him to a parent who was sinking un-  
 ‘ der a recent affliction.

‘ I therefore, the more readily complied with  
 ‘ his request, of getting some worthy divine, to  
 ‘ instruct him in the tenets of religion ; with  
 ‘ which

‘ which he confessed himself greatly unacquaint-  
 ‘ ed ; though his life had been a series of the  
 ‘ practice of those virtues, that religion recom-  
 ‘ mends.

‘ The worthy Mr. Gray, at my request, un-  
 ‘ dertook this task ; knowing him by the name  
 ‘ of Woodville ; as my friend had previously  
 ‘ declared his resolution of never reassuming his  
 ‘ family name, till restored to his father’s fa-  
 ‘ vour : and though he had long before, told  
 ‘ his poor wife, she must expect to be called  
 ‘ Mandeville, whenever she was presented to  
 ‘ his family, yet, he had requested her to con-  
 ‘ ceal his real name from every other person.

‘ To me, it was necessary it should be known,  
 ‘ on account of the business I had undertaken to  
 ‘ transact for him.

‘ Providence has planned the unhappy meeting  
 ‘ between Mr. Mandeville and his friends ! and  
 ‘ left me nothing farther to do, than to rejoice  
 ‘ in

‘ in events so likely to make him as happy, as  
 ‘ he deserves to be.’

We thanked Mr. Ware, for his additional information ; and (as human nature is apt to go from one extreme to the other) Lord Belmont began to condemn his former ideas, of so much care being necessary, to form the perfect character.—saying,

‘ We see in Mr. Mandeville, to what a height  
 ‘ virtue and accomplishments can attain ; without  
 ‘ any other help, than a good disposition, and  
 ‘ a naturally sound understanding.’

‘ Pardon me, my Lord, said Colonel Belville,  
 ‘ if I do not allow the justice of your inference.---  
 ‘ One example is not sufficient to demonstrate  
 ‘ so important a point ; I most readily grant,  
 ‘ who indeed, can be so blind as to deny it ?  
 ‘ that Mr. Mandeville has every virtue, and every

‘ accomplishment, which can adorn the best  
 ‘ educated man! but are we from thence, to  
 ‘ conclude, all men would be polished and ami-  
 ‘ able, if left to themselves.

‘ Mr. Mandeville was born the hero and the  
 ‘ philosopher; and the gentleness of his nature  
 ‘ supplied the want of polish: but yet, I cannot  
 ‘ give up the necessity of a good education.

‘ In England, at least, I am certain we might  
 ‘ as well expect pine apples on a crab tree, as  
 ‘ good judgment, and proper conduct, from un-  
 ‘ cultivated nature.’

The return of Mandeville and his Emily,  
 stopped our farther discourse upon the subject.

We conversed the rest of the day, with that  
 cheerfulness, which ease, love and friendship,  
 can alone create! seldom enjoyed, and never  
 well described, as relaters and readers have  
 different

different tastes and different feelings, which it is vain to attempt to gratify; yet, such society, when accompanied with a harmony of disposition, which inclines each person to endeavour to please, gives me the clearest idea I can form, of the conversation of ‘just men made perfect:’ and must, I think, resemble it the most any earthly enjoyment can; because, it can be experienced only by ‘the pure in heart.’

Expect no more letters from me; Colonel Belville’s lawyer informs him, that every thing is ready for signing and sealing the important deeds: and as the writings for the marriage of Mr. Mandeville and Miss Howard, cannot be completed in less than a month, my gentleman insists upon my going from hence directly; so either to please him, or myself, I shall begin to practice obedience now, that it may sit the easier upon me hereafter; and therefore I have consented to go to London, on Monday; and the rather, as Lady Sarah Mordaunt is unhappy at

the thoughts of the marriage being celebrated here.'

A little superstition will, sometimes, inhabit the breast of an old woman !

She has conceived strange terrors from the past shocking scenes ; and her excessive fondness for the nephew (to whom she has always supplied the place of a mother) gives her a sort of right, to have even her whims indulged.

I confess, I had set my heart on Lord Belmont's giving my hand, to the man who has so long possessed my heart ; but so he takes it from somebody, I will be content.

I shall not leave Belmont without regret ; but after the long experience I have had of Belville's affection ; and the consciousness, that he has submitted to my will and pleasure, with very uncommon patience, it would be disingenuous not  
to



to own, I have no wish to postpone an event,  
from which I expect an increase of happiness  
to, .

Your's, &c.

ANNE WILMOTT.

To Mrs. MANDEVILLE.

I HOPE you, and Lady Belmont, received my congratulations, and those of my beloved, to Lord Belmont, and Mr. Mandeville, two posts ago:-----they were very sincere, though very concise.

You cannot need any flowers of rhetoric, to convince you, we shared in your happiness; but you, who by marrying privately, and in the country, have escaped the hurry, confusion, and turbulence of joy I have lived in, for this last month, will, perhaps, not so easily credit how little time the bustle of congratulations has left me to write at all; much less to write floridly  
and

and copiously, even on a subject which interested me so much as your nuptials.

However, as all things must have an end, the joy which has been expressed by our mutual friends, has subsided sufficiently, to give me leave to take up my pen with more composure.

Lady Melvin and I are almost constantly together.

She is happy in the polite attentions of her Lord; and, I really believe, possesses his sincere affection, as he certainly does her's.

She accompanies me in a round of visits of ceremony :---in some of those, I have been highly entertained at your's, and your beloved honorable's expence.

Do not look grave, my dear Emily, but enjoy, as I have done, the ridiculous comments on your match.

I have

I have been assured by some, who protested they had the account from the best authority, that Miss Howard, a niece of Lady Belmont's, a beautiful young creature, but just fifteen, was, last week, barbarously sacrificed, against her will, to an old man turned of seventy!--- an odious Indian too!

He pretended, indeed, to be of the Mandeville family, and heir at law to Lord Belmont's estate, and title; but it was well known, his birth was spurious; and, as to his riches, it was believed, they would prove counterfeit also; for it was an undoubted fact, that a wealthy merchant supported him, and had lent him large sums, to obtain the prize of Miss Howard's hand, which would ensure him Lord Belmont's fortune.

Poor girl! they say she shines in jewels; alas! how will the unfortunate victim be mortified, when, like the jay in the fable she is stripped of her borrowed plumes!

It

‘ It is wonderful, how a man of Lord Belmont’s good understanding, allowed penetration, and knowledge of the world, can have been so imposed upon.’

I was malicious enough to listen in silence to this curious tale.

The consequence has been, that Lord Melvin was informed, the next day, that I was quoted for it’s author !

I long to have you appear in the drawing-room, in all your Eastern magnificence, with your handsome, and youthful husband ; that I may see whether these wonderfully well-informed gossips can blush at their own effrontery !

Come up soon, I entreat you ; if not for this purpose, come to give the only addition that is wanting to the happiness of

Your truly affectionate,

ANNE BELVILLE.

To

TO MRS. S——.

**I** HAVE now, my dear madam, finished the task of transcribing the papers I received from Lady Anne Belville.

I ought, indeed, to call it by another name ; as, I must confess, exclusive of the pleasure the endeavouring to oblige you must always give me, I have found much satisfaction in writing accounts of events and characters so interesting as these have proved.

I have taken the liberty of leaving out many of Emily's epistles to her friend, Miss Kitty Fortescue, as they were chiefly repetitions of what was recited in Lady Anne's letters to Mr. Herbert.

Lady

Lady Anne has fulfilled her promise of adding some particulars, which could not be found in these manuscripts, and, as I am convinced you must be thoroughly interested in all that relates to this worthy family, I will transmit them to you in her own words.

‘ Lord and Lady Belmont reside entirely in  
 ‘ the country; and as the house of Belmont is  
 ‘ sufficiently large to admit of it, have persuaded  
 ‘ Mr. and Mrs. Mandeville to spend most of  
 ‘ their time with them.

‘ They have, however, an elegant small  
 ‘ lodge on Mr. Mandeville’s estate, to which  
 ‘ they sometimes retire for a month at a time—  
 ‘ longer, they think it unkind to leave Belmont,  
 ‘ as they are sensible, they alone can keep the  
 ‘ spirits of that amiable pair from sinking; and,  
 ‘ as Mrs. Mandeville promised her beloved Lady  
 ‘ Julia, not to forsake her parents, she would  
 ‘ herself be unhappy in a long absence.

‘ Colonel

‘ Colonel Mandeville’s spirits were, at first,  
‘ roused by the return of his son so unexpected-  
‘ ly ; but they have sunk again !

‘ He has not that strong assistance which true  
‘ religion gives, and which has enabled Lord  
‘ and Lady Belmont to conquer their afflic-  
‘ tion !

‘ Colonel Mandeville is a strict moralist ; but  
‘ revelation has not had its proper influence on  
‘ his mind ! and morality, alone, is not suffici-  
‘ ent to teach patience in adversity ; and to in-  
‘ spire that comfort which arises from a pious  
‘ trust in God !

‘ To this cause I ascribe the return of his  
‘ dejection ;—the world have assigned another  
‘ reason, viz.

‘ That, though Mr. Mandeville is the very  
‘ best of sons, and continues the most exalted of  
‘ characters, yet, that the Colonel feels himself  
‘ mortified, at seeing his darling Harry excelled  
‘ by



‘ by a young man, who had never been a favorite, and who had never received the benefit of his instructions.’

‘ This sentiment would shew a littleness of mind, that I verily believe him incapable of; but yet, I fear, his poor Harry’s beloved form still haunts his imagination; and will not permit him to reap all the happiness he might now enjoy!

‘ Emily is as happy a wife as myself, which is saying all I know how to describe.

‘ Her own two lovely boys are not dearer to her, than the charming Agnes; who is, without exception, the most delightful creature I ever beheld!

‘ Her form is so perfect, that she might be chosen as a model for a statuary to copy.

‘ Her face is not so beautiful from its fine features, faultless as these are, as it is from  
‘ expres-

‘ expression---it is the index of a lively and en-  
‘ gaging mind.

‘ Her understanding, and disposition, pro-  
‘ mise that the fruit will be equal to the blof-  
‘ som !

‘ The family at Belmont are so happy in  
‘ themselves, and the society of Mr. Ware,  
‘ Mr. Herbert, and Mr. Gray, that they do  
‘ not extend their acquaintance farther than  
‘ civility requires.

‘ Lady Mary Mandeville has paid that debt  
‘ to nature, which all are some day to pay.

‘ She left her large fortune to Lord Belmont.

‘ She never was cordially attached to any  
‘ body but her brother, and her admired Harry.

‘ Colonel Belville and myself, are annual visi-  
‘ tors at Belmont ; and, as I cannot go without

‘ my

‘ my four little prattlers, we make a large party---  
 ‘ but it is a happy one.

‘ Conjugal love, and parental affection, with  
 ‘ all the joys which friendship, founded upon  
 ‘ virtue, can yield, prevents our ever feeling  
 ‘ that fashionable disease, called *ennui*; which,  
 ‘ epidemical as it plainly is, amongst our great  
 ‘ people, finds no cure in a round of dissipation  
 ‘ and amusements, as they call their avocations;  
 ‘ and, I fear, they are not, in general, quali-  
 ‘ fied to try our never-failing recipé.’

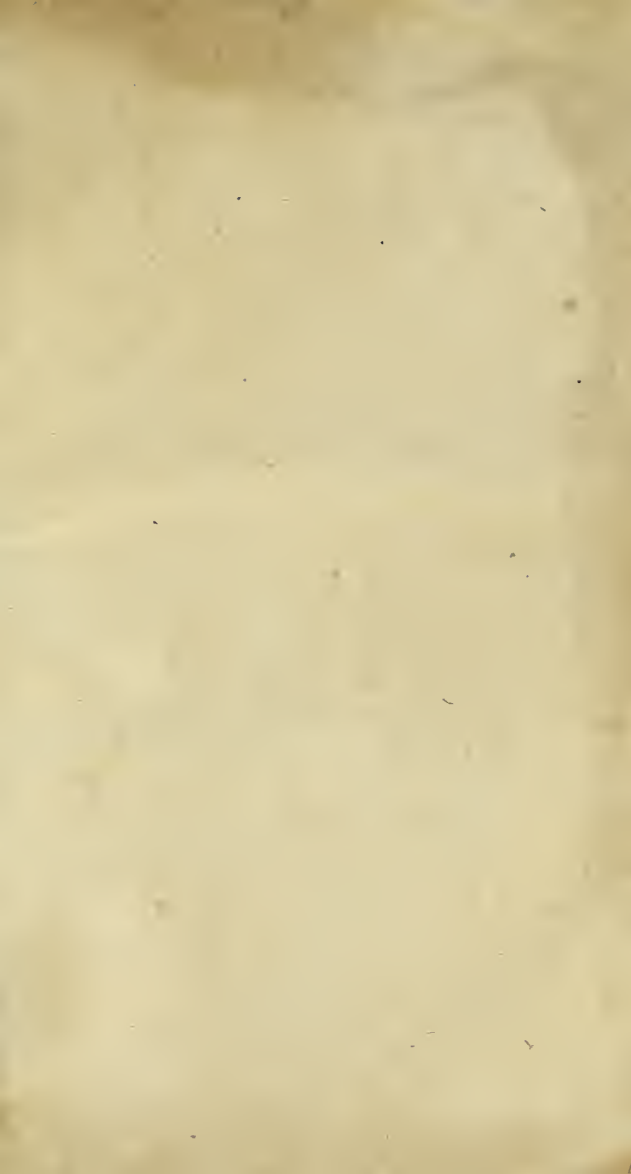
I will now, my dear Mrs. S——, lay down  
 my pen, and sincerely wish you may receive  
 from it, the pleasure this long use of it has  
 given to

Your sincerely affectionate

JANE P——.

F I N I S.





Theodocia Ashton  
her books







